Trade and Industry

14 November 1974 15p

Notices to Importers
No. 1466: Imports of certain rare animals
It has been decided, on the advice of the Advisory Committee established under the Animals (Restriction of Importation) Act 1964, that two species of CERCOPITHECIDAE (Old World Monkeys) – Natalis larvatus and Pygathrix nemaeus, included as List 2 animals in the Annex to Notice to Importers No. 1295, should be transferred to List 1.
Importers should note that henceforth applications for licences to import either of these two species will be considered by the Advisory Committee who will normally be prepared to recommend the issue of a licence only for special purposes, eg breeding or research.
Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1 3DB. Tel. 01-215 7877

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Maryland Port Administration

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BALTIMORE: John F. Halloran, regional manager
19 S. Charles Street / Baltimore, Maryland 21201
(301) 383-5753 / Cable: MARPORT / Telex 710-234-1075.

BRUSSELS: David K. Tosic, manager
H. Frank Vonderach, assistant manager
Shell Building / 60 Rue Ravenstein / 1000 Brussels, Belgium
5-13.01.49 & 5-13.54.05 / Cable: MARPORT / Telex 26862.

LONDON: Kenneth L. Newton, manager
*Stanley G. Armstrong, assistant manager
Moor House, 119 London Wall / London, England EC2Y 5ET
01-638-8330 / Cable: BALTPORT / Telex 888711
*Birmingham and Northern England.

Trade and Industry

14 November 1974

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Oran U Tan is helping to ensure that there is no monkey-business about compliance with the latest Notice to Importers. He spotted it last week when, for the first time, a Notice to Importers was published only in 'Trade and Industry' rather than copies also being circulated to importers. Orang was interested to see the new arrangements about imports of two species of his cousins. An avid reader of our Trade Information Section, he was recently relieved to learn of measures to maintain adequate imports of bananas.

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Britain

Preventing the pollution of the sea from land sources

Dr. Peter J. Graham, Industrial and Commercial Policy Division, Department of Industry

Although there are international Conventions designed to control the pollution of the sea from ships and aircraft (see below), until now there has been no formal international agreement on controlling discharges from land into the sea, or into rivers and estuaries. At the beginning of this year, however, two Conventions were agreed which will bring these discharges and their effects under such control. The Helsinki Convention covers the Baltic Sea and was agreed by the states bordering that sea. The other Convention very much affects the United Kingdom. It is the Paris Convention, and covers the same area of sea as the Oslo Convention (given below). The UK was among the first 10 states to sign it, on 11 June; the other states bordering on the North East Atlantic are expected to sign later.

Dumping Conventions

During 1972 two Conventions to provide international frameworks for the control of marine pollution by dumping from ships or aircraft were concluded in Oslo and London. The Oslo Convention is a regional convention and applies to the North East Atlantic area, including the North Sea and the Celtic (or Irish) Sea but excluding the Baltic and Mediterranean. The aim of the Convention is to prevent the pollution of the sea by the dumping of substances that are liable to create hazards to human health, to harm living resources and marine life, to damage amenities or to interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea. The provisions for the control of dumping at sea are set out in three annexes. Any intending dumper must seek approval from the appropriate national authority.

Regular and frequent sampling of the River Thames is undertaken by the Thames Water Authority to ascertain any contamination. Here a scientific officer is seen sampling the river bed at Teddington Weir for biological examination.

Substances, the dumping of which are prohibited are listed in Annex I: these are organohalogen and organosilicon compounds (excluding those which are non-toxic or which are rapidly converted in the sea into substances which are biologically harmless), substances agreed as likely to be carcinogenic, mercury, cadmium and their compounds, persistent plastics and other persistent synthetic materials which may float or remain in suspension in the sea. Annex II lists substances requiring special care: it includes certain metals and their compounds, certain other compounds, pesticides not covered in Annex I, containers, tar-like substances and objects which might be an obstacle to navigation and fishing. Annex III sets out the criteria governing the dumping of any permitted waste in Annexes I and II and all other substances for which approval to dump is granted.

The Oslo Convention came into operation in April 1974. The first meeting of the Commission set up to exercise overall supervision over the implementation of the Convention met in Oslo in October. The London Convention is similar but is global in extent. The Dumping at Sea Act 1974, which came into operation on 27 June 1974, enables the UK to ratify both of these Conventions.

The texts of these Conventions were published by HM Stationery Office —'Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft: Oslo 15 February 1972' (Comnd 4984, price 10½p net) and 'Final Act of the Inter-governmental Conference on the Convention on the Dumping of Wastes at Sea: London 13 November 1972' (Cmnd 5169 price 13½p net).

IMCO activity

The control of the carriage of substances, particularly oil, by ships, and the discharge of such substances from ships, has long been dealt with by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO) and has been the subject of a number of resolutions, agreements and conventions. To date the principal agreement has been the 1954 International Convention on the Prevention of the Pollution of the Sea by Oil, although this has been amended over the years.

Towards the end of 1973, however, a new Convention on the Prevention of Pollution from ships was agreed: this aims at the complete elimination of intentional pollution from ships, not just by oil but also by all other harmful substances, and at the minimisation of the risk of discharge of harmful substances, resulting from accident. The Convention will come into effect 12 months after the date at which at least 15 states whose combined merchant fleet constitutes at least 50 per cent of the world's merchant shipping have ratified the

These pictures, supplied by the Water Research Centre, Stevenage, demonstrate how just replacing hard detergents by soft detergents can help substantially to reduce the pollution of a river. Both photographs were taken at the same spot on the River Lee, the picture on the left being taken in 1958 when hard detergents were in use, while the view shown on the right is some years later when soft detergents were being used.

Convention. Since ratification for many countries entails the passing of suitable legislation, it will be appreciated that the Convention is not expected to come into force for some time to come. Further details of the Convention were given on pages 638-9 of *Trade and Industry* for 20 September 1973.

The Paris Convention

The essence of the Paris Convention is contained in its first Article, which reads as follows:

> 'The Contracting Parties pledge themselves to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the sea, by which is meant the introduction by man, directly or indirectly, of substances or energy into the marine environment (including estuaries) resulting in such deleterious effects as hazards to human health, harm to living resources and to marine eco-systems, damage to amenities or interference with other legitimate uses of the sea. The Contracting Parties shall individually and jointly adopt measures to combat marine pollution from land-based sources in accordance with the provisions of the present Convention and shall harmonise their policies in this regard.'

The extent to which industry in the UK is situated on or near the coastline in order to take advantage of the natural assimilative capacity of the sea was consistently borne in mind during negotiations in preparation of the Conventions. The British representatives were therefore conscious of the need to ensure that this Convention would not result in unnecessary restrictions on the sensible use by industry of the marine environment. Sensible use of the sea is recognised in the first Article (above), since pollution of the sea is defined in terms of 'deleterious effects' rather than in terms of the discharges themselves. The rest of the Convention has to be applied bearing this definition in mind, and so, when the Convention talks in terms of preventing pollution, this means preventing 'deleterious effects' rather than necessarily stopping all discharges.

The Convention provides a framework within which a co-ordinated international approach to controlling pollution of the North East Atlantic by land-based discharges can take place. It lists pollutants and distinguishes between two broad categories of them set out in two separate lists – Substances in the first list are considered particularly serious, and the Contracting Parties undertake to eliminate – if necessary, by stages – pollution by such substances: substances in the second list are considered less serious and the commitment is to limit the pollution they cause. The text of the relevant parts of the Annex to the Convention is given below and it will be noted that this includes an explanation for the inclusion of substances. There is provision in the Convention for amendment of these lists by the Contracting Parties.

'*PART I* (Pollution to be eliminated)
The following substances are included in this Part

(i) because they are not readily degradable or rendered harmless by natural processes; and

(ii) because they may either

a. give rise to dangerous accumulation of harmful material in the food chain, or

b. endanger the welfare of living organisms causing undesirable changes in the marine eco-systems, or

c. interfere seriously with the harvesting of sea foods or with other legitimate uses of the sea; and

(iii) because it is considered that pollution by these substances necessitates urgent action.

1. Organohalogen compounds and substances which may form such compounds in the marine environment, excluding those which are biologically harmless, or which are rapidly converted in the sea into substances which are biologically harmless.
2. Mercury and mercury compounds.
3. Cadmium and cadmium compounds.
4. Persistent synthetic materials which may float, remain in suspension or sink, and which may seriously interfere with any legitimate use of the sea.
5. Persistent oils and hydrocarbons of petroleum origin.

PART II (Pollution to be strictly controlled)
The following substances are included in this Part because, although exhibiting similar characteristics to the substances in Part I and requiring strict control, they seem less noxious or are more readily rendered harmless by natural processes;

1. Organic compounds of phosphorous, silicon, and tin and substances which may form such compounds in the marine environment, excluding those which are biologically harmless, or which are rapidly converted in the sea into substances which are biologically harmless.
2. Elemental phosphorous
3. Non-persistent oils and hydrocarbons of petroleum origin.
4. The following elements and their compounds:

Arsenic	Lead
Chromium	Nickel
Copper	Zinc

5. Substances which have been agreed by the Commission as having a deleterious effect on the taste and/or smell of products derived from the marine environment for human consumption'

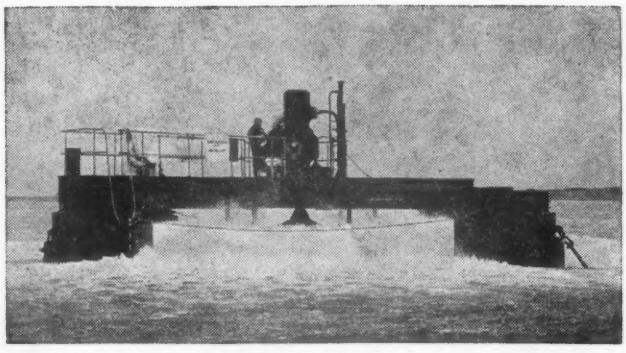
Convention Commission

A Commission will be set up under the Convention to be responsible for reviewing generally the condition of the sea areas to which the Convention applies and for assessing the effectiveness of the controls already in force. Each Contracting Party will be represented on the Commission. The Commission will be able to draw up programmes and measures to supplement existing measures as is necessary. It will be necessary to identify pollution, assess its seriousness and satisfy the Contracting Parties of the need for particular controls proposed to enable any agreement on new or changed measures to be reached.

The Convention provides that the Commission shall adopt by unanimous votes programmes and measures for the reduction and elimination of pollution and programmes for scientific research and monitoring, and that programmes and measures shall commence and be applied by all contracting parties 200 days after their adoption unless the Commission specifies another date. Should unanimity not be obtainable the Commission may none-the-less adopt a programme or measure by a three-quarters majority vote of its members and the programmes and measures can then commence for those contracting parties which voted for them within the specified time.

In discharging its responsibility for reviewing the state of the sea and monitoring pollution, the Commission will maintain close contact with its counterpart established under the Oslo Convention, which has a similar responsibility. Indeed, because these two Conventions apply to the same area of sea, it is envisaged that there will be a continuing and very close liaison between the two Commissions; the detailed arrangements for this have yet to be agreed.

These are the main aspects of the Paris Convention. There are various other provisions included in it relating to, for example, arbitration in the event of a dispute between two signatories to the Convention and bilateral agreements on marine pollution between a contracting party and a state not signatory to the Convention.

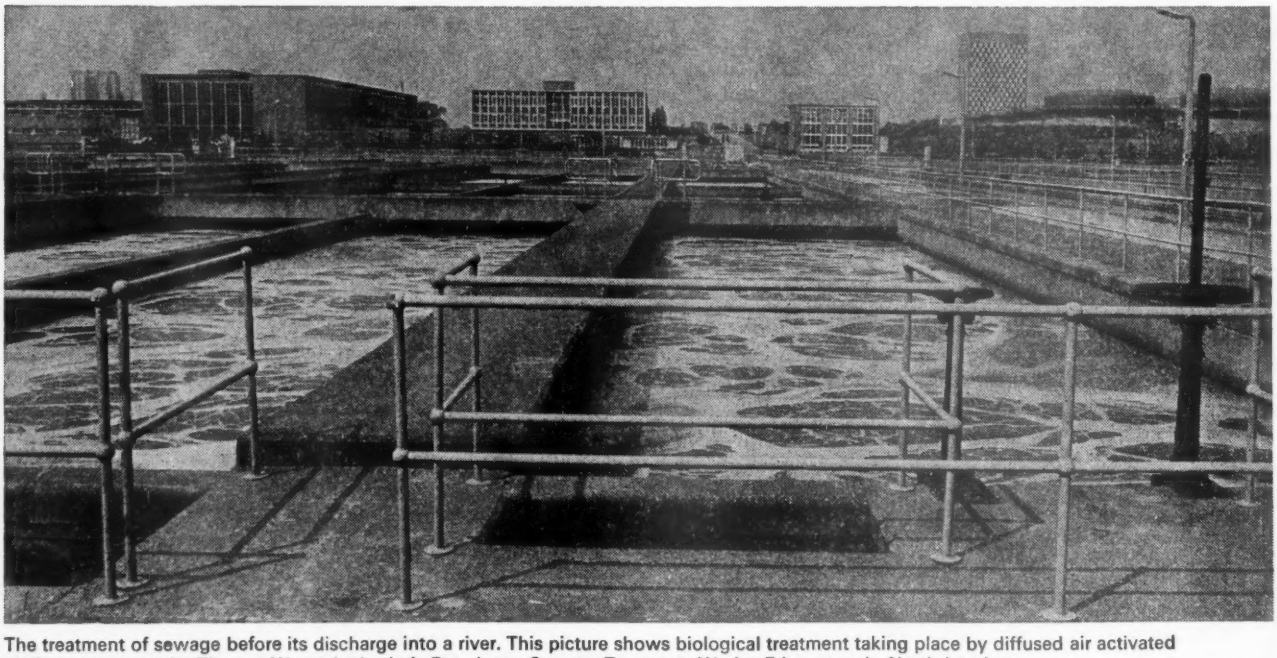


When this aerator was first put into position on the River Thames by Thames Board Mills Ltd. it was the world's largest surface aerator to operate in a tidal river. Situated near the company's main board mills at Purfleet, the plant was designed to dissolve oxygen into the river equivalent to the bio-chemical oxygen demand load of the effluent discharged by TBM in its board-making operations. It was regarded as a significant advance over any land-based installation, as a biological treatment plant can only be expected to reduce the oxygen demand of the effluent by 90 per cent.

As Article 1 says, the Contracting Parties, individually and jointly, shall adopt measures to combat pollution by the substances listed. The main powers will be exercised in the UK by the Regional Water Authorities in England and Wales and by the River Purification Boards in Scotland. These authorities – principally in England and Wales in the form of their predecessors, the river authorities – have long had powers to control pollution in rivers through the use of consents to discharge; these powers have now been extended by the Control of Pollution Act to estuaries and coastal waters.

It is not expected that the United Kingdom's accession to the Paris Convention will result in any drastic changes in the general practice of the water authorities; but undertakings in those areas only now coming under the control of the authorities (ie, estuaries and coastal waters) need, of course, to recognise the controls now to take effect in their areas.

It is hoped that the text of the Convention will be published shortly. Further information on the Convention can be obtained from the author: Department of Industry, Industrial and Commercial Policy Division, Room 605, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.



The treatment of sewage before its discharge into a river. This picture shows biological treatment taking place by diffused air activated sludge process at the Thames Water Authority's Deephams Sewage Treatment Works, Edmonton, in North London.

Home News

Appointments to Design Council

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, has appointed new members to the Design Council. They will join the chairman, Viscount Caldecote, and nine members of the Council who have been re-appointed.

The new members are: William G. Cowan, managing director, J. H. Carruthers and Co. Ltd.; George H. Doughty, former general secretary of AUEW Technical and Supervisory Staff Section; John M. Gray, chairman, Northern Ireland Electricity Service; David W. Gentleman, graphic designer; Colin H. H. King, director, Reed International Ltd. and managing director, The Wallpaper Manufacturers Ltd.; Gerald Long, managing director, Reuters Ltd.; Miss Althea McNish, textile designer; Dr. Patrick Nuttgens, architect and director, Leeds Polytechnic; Angus Sillars, managing director, Strathearn Glass Ltd., and John Whitehorn, deputy director-general, Confederation of British Industry.

The re-appointed members are: David Carter, industrial design consultant; Mr. H. G. Conway, joint deputy chairman, Design Council; Mr. R. D. Fairbarn, vice-chairman, Clydesdale Bank Ltd.; Mr. G. B. R. Feilden, director-general, British Standards Institution; Ewen McEwen, vice-chairman, Joseph Lucas Ltd.; Martin Moss, joint deputy chairman, Design Council; managing director – Europe, May Department Stores International Inc.; Dr. A. E. Moulton, managing director, Moulton Developments Ltd.; Mr. L. G. Oxford, and Lord Seebohm of Hertford, director, Barclays Bank Ltd.

Appointment of IDU Director

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, has appointed Mr. G. D. W. Odgers as Director of the Industrial Development Unit. Mr. Odgers was appointed as an Industrial Adviser with the Department in March of this year and has been acting as Director of the Industrial Development Unit since 1 July.

North of England products to be displayed at Design Centre

For five weeks in March 1975, the North of England Development Council and the Design Council will display products of the North of England at the Design Centre, London.

This is the first exhibition to be launched by NEDC in association with the Design Council.

Eight hundred sq. ft. of space have been allocated to the display which will be on show from 3 March to 5 April. All types of products will be selected—from consumer goods to engineering. All must pass Design Council scrutiny as worthy examples of high design quality. The Design Council's Design Index Committee will decide.

Participation in the exhibition is free. Companies manufacturing in the Northern Region of England are eligible to apply and they should make immediate contact with Mr. Dan Johnston, Design Council, 28 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4SU.

Expansion on Tyneside

Thermal Syndicate Ltd., of Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, are to lease approximately 30,000 sq. ft. of factory space from the English Industrial Estates Corporation on the West Chirton Industrial Estate, North Shields.

The company, which manufactures and fabricates products of fused quartz, fused silica and high temperature oxide ceramics at Wallsend, and granular fused magnesia for high temperature electrical insulation at Benton, plans to set up an additional manufacturing unit at West Chirton as part of their planned expansion programme to be carried out in parallel at the existing Wallsend site and at West Chirton.

The manufacture at West Chirton will be concerned mainly with light fabrication and the production of components using basic materials produced at Wallsend. Eventually 120 people will be employed at West Chirton.

The space freed at Wallsend will be used to expand and improve technically the existing production facilities. The number of employees there will also increase substantially.

Impact study of Buchan Area

Aberdeen County Council have decided to employ consultants to prepare an economic and environmental evaluation of possible industrial development in the Buchan area. The Scottish Development Department are associated with the County Council in the commissioning of the work and are sharing the cost, which is estimated at £25,000. The study is to be carried out by the Economist Intelligence Unit Ltd., and is to be completed in six months. It will assess the economic, social and physical impact of industrial developments already proposed for the area. It will also examine the possibility of further projects being attracted to the Buchan area and their potential impact and will draw up a planning strategy to help the County Council and the new planning authorities after local government reorganisation to cope with the increasing pressures of oil related development.

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Industrial and commercial property

Gatwick-Belfast licence for British Midland Airways

The Civil Aviation Authority has granted British Midland Airways Ltd. a temporary exemption from normal licensing requirements to permit them to operate, as from 1 November 1974, a scheduled service between London (Gatwick) and Belfast. This service has hitherto been operated by British Caledonian Airways Ltd., who recently announced their withdrawal from this route.

The exemption means that this service can be continued pending the Authority's decision on a long-term licence. Grant of the exemption is without prejudice to the Authority's decision.

The Authority also understands that British Airways will be introducing additional capacity on their service between London (Heathrow) and Belfast.

Cheese subsidy increase rate announced

The cheese subsidy increase first announced on 7 October will raise the rate to £188 per ton, said Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, in the House of Commons on 8 November. In a written answer to Mr. Max Madden, (Sowerby), Mr. Maclennan said:

'My Rt. Hon. Friend has decided to increase the subsidy on cheese to the equivalent of about 12p per lb. at the retail level. The existing rate of £105 per ton will be increased to £188 per ton with effect from 11 November. This adjustment, which has been determined in the light of price increases notified to the Price Commission by United Kingdom cheese manufacturers, will offset the effects on cheese prices of the decision on EEC farm prices taken in Brussels on 17-19 September, and confirmed by EEC Ministers in Luxembourg on 2 October.

'The revised estimate of expenditure on the cheese subsidy in 1974/75 is £42.2 million, which represents an increase of £11.7 million over the previous estimate of £30.5 million. A Supplementary Estimate will be presented to the House in due course.'

The subsidy on cheese is paid in accordance with the Cheese Subsidy Scheme 1974. It applies to Cheddar cheese, the competing United Kingdom territorial cheeses, Gouda, Edam and certain similar varieties.

Total expenditure under the Cheese Subsidy Scheme in 1974/75 is estimated at £42 million.

An increase in the general consumer subsidies on butter and cheese to offset the effects of the EEC decision on farm prices was announced on 3 October.

John Methven outlines his duties under the Consumer Credit Act

The four main duties of the Office of Fair Trading under the Consumer Credit Act were described by John Methven, the OFT's Director General, at a conference on 7 November. Mr. Methven, who was speaking at a Consumer Credit Conference organised by Queen Mary College, said:

First: Section 4 obliged him to disseminate information and advice to the public.

Second: licences would be required by credit businesses under Part III of the Act.

Third: he, with local Trading Standard Officers and the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce, was responsible for enforcing the Act.

Fourth: he had to keep under review the working and enforcement of the Act and developments in the field of credit and hire and to advise the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection about such matters.

On his duties to provide information to the public, Mr. Methven said: 'The success or failure of the Act will largely depend on the behaviour of the parties most affected by it; the credit industry and its customers. It is essential that the trader knows, first of all, of the existence of the Act, and, then, of his obligations under it. I should perhaps here mention that two provisions are already in force – Sections 154 and 155 relating to credit brokers, debt counsellors, and debt adjusters. The consumer too must know of his rights so that these can be used sensibly. The advertising regulations are a case in point. They aim to make shopping for credit simpler.

'However, unless we are very careful they will provide endless scope for confusion and misunderstanding, with Local Trading Standards Offices and the Office of Fair Trading besieged by bewildered traders on the one hand and angry consumers on the other. Naturally I want to avoid this as far as possible. A series of guidance booklets for the trade will be produced and widely distributed by the Office. These will explain various provisions of the Act and be issued as those provisions are brought into force by the Secretary of State. One booklet might explain the advertising regulations; another and later booklet would treat the requirements concerning the form and content of credit arrangements when they come into effect. At the same time less detailed material will be produced for the consumer.'

The Director General then spoke briefly about licences which will have to be issued under the Act to virtually all credit and hire businesses. The Office of Fair Trading will probably be ready to process the first applications by next autumn, he said.

Turning to the subject of enforcement, Mr. Methven said: 'I shall obviously be consulting closely with local Trading Standards Offices, on whom the main weight of enforcement will rest. Section 161 requires local authorities to inform my Office when they intend to bring a prosecution under the Act. This will enable the Office to give guidance where necessary and to discuss with the authority whether it would be best for us to prosecute in a particular case.

'I have the duty of keeping under review both the working and enforcement of the Act,' continued the Director General, 'and developments in consumer credit and hire in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. The licensing system will be a major source of information, telling us for the first time how many businesses there are of various types in the country. The Office's role in consumer affairs under the Fair Trading Act will help here. We shall be able to assess how developments in the giving of credit affect the overall position of the consumer. After all the granting of credit and the making of a purchase are frequently linked. We shall seek to expand our close links with local authorities and to develop quickly contact with the credit industry.

'The Office's main aim in consumer credit, as in the rest of its work, will be to achieve a fair balance between the trader and the consumer, or between lender and borrower. While we have important statutory duties to perform and enforcement duties to undertake, we will hope to achieve a great deal too by education and publicity, by negotiation, and by voluntary agreement.'

Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958

Dealers in securities

The following changes have taken place in the lists of dealers in securities under Sections 3 and 16 of the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958.

Licensed dealers

Additions:

A. C. Goode and Co. (UK) Ltd., Winchester House, 100 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1BE.

Deletions:

Ufitec (London) Ltd., 108 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6EU.

Compass Finance (UK) Ltd., 54/56 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7BB.

Incentive Fund Management Ltd., Throgmorton House, 15 Copthall Avenue, London EC2.

Colquhoun Lowson and Co. Ltd., 56 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7BB.

Investment Management and Finance Ltd., 46 Dorset Street, London W1.

CCC Securities Ltd., Dowgate Hill House, Dowgate Hill, London EC4R 2TJ.

Portman Guaranty Ltd., 86/88 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4BH.

Predel Securities Ltd., Norfolk House (4th Floor), 36 Cannon Street, Birmingham B2 5EE.

Change of address:

Lonscott Securities Ltd., 292 Worton Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 6DR.

First Chicago Asset Management Corporation, P & O Building, Leadenhall Street, London EC3V 4QU.

Pacific Securities Ltd., 1 Crown Court, Cheapside, London EC2V 6DA.

Morley (Geoffrey Morley) and Partners Ltd., 28 St. John's Square, London EC1M 4BA.

Exempted dealers

Change of address:

Banco di Roma SpA, 14/18 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1JY.

Lazard Brothers and Co. Ltd., 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT.

Lazard Securities Ltd., 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT.

James Finlay Corporation Ltd., Hellenic House, 87-97 Bath Street, Glasgow.

Authorised unit trust schemes

The following amendments have taken place in the list of unit trust schemes authorised under Section 17 of the Act and published in Part 5 of the 1974 Particulars of Dealers in Securities and of Unit Trusts.

Group and/or name and address of Management Company	Name of scheme	Name and address of Trustee
Lawson Securities Limited, 63 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2JG	Lawson Scottish Resources and General Fund	Clydesdale Bank Limited, 30 St. Vincent Place Glasgow G1 2HL

Changes

DELETE
Talisman Fund Managers Limited, Plantation House, 5-8 Mincing Lane, London EC3M 3DX

AND REPLACE BY
Bridge Talisman Fund Managers Limited, Plantation House, 5-8 Mincing Lane, London EC3M 3DX

Sodium-sulphur battery (centre) for electric vehicles of the future. The set of electric cells in the container weigh 35 lb. but the unit has a storage capacity equal to the three standard car batteries also shown. The new battery, consisting of sodium-sulphur cells, has a capacity of about 180 ampere/hours at 12 volts compared with the capacity of the conventional lead-acid battery of 60 ampere/hours. Storage units of up to 960 cells have already been operated during research by Chloride Silent Power, a new company set up jointly by the British Electricity Council and the Chloride Group to develop the sodium-sulphur battery. The batteries are made from material that is cheap and plentiful and research indicates that they will ultimately have the capacity to store some ten times the energy of a lead-acid battery of similar weight. The 960-cell model has successfully powered an 18 cwt. van.

Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on supply of primary batteries

The price of certain types of photographic batteries should be reduced, according to the report (HMSO, £1.30) of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the supply of primary batteries. Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said in the House of Commons on 7 November that he had accepted the recommendation and that the Director General of Fair Trading would be discussing the implementation of the recommendation and a number of other matters in the report with the industry.

In a written reply to a question from Mr. N. G. Kinnock (Bedwellty), Alan Williams said: 'The report is being published today. The Commission have found that monopoly conditions, as defined in the legislation in force when the reference was made, prevail in the supply in the United Kingdom of zinc carbon batteries and mercury batteries because Ever Ready and Mallory respectively supply more than one-third of each type of battery.

'The Commission decided that neither Ever Ready's monopoly position nor any of its practices were against the public interest, and made no formal recommendation concerning the company. While the Commission found that the company had not abused its market power, they considered that the possibility of abuse existed and that it was possible in some years time, there might be a case for a further reference. The Commission therefore suggested that Ever Ready's profits and pricing and discount policies should be kept under review and that for this purpose the Director General might consider inviting the company to provide him with the necessary information annually or from time to time.

'The Commission did not consider Mallory's monopoly position to be against the public interest, but thought that there was a risk of its profits being excessive in the future and that it was possible that, in some years time, there might be a case for a further reference. The Commission therefore suggested that Mallory's profits and pricing and discount policies should be kept under review and that for this purpose the Director General might consider inviting the company to provide him with the necessary information annually or from time to time. The Commission did, however, conclude that the level of prices charged by Mallory on its sales of photographic batteries (which accounted for about 11 per cent by value of the company's UK sales of mercury batteries in 1973) resulted in excessive profits and thus operated against the public interest. They recommended that Mallory be required to make significant reductions in the prices of photographic batteries, the amount of the reduction and the particular photographic batteries to which the reductions should apply to be decided by the Director General of Fair Trading after consultation with Mallory.

'In the course of their inquiries, the Commission found that there was substantial ignorance on the part of the public as to the most appropriate uses of the different types of zinc carbon batteries and hoped that Ever Ready would take further steps to make customers aware of these different applications. In addition, they would like to see both companies introducing the 'use-before' form of date marking on both zinc carbon and mercury photographic batteries so that consumers would know when to replace any that had not been used.

'I accept the recommendation in the report. I am asking the Director General of Fair Trading to discuss the implementation of the recommendation with Mallory, and to discuss the other suggestions the Commission have made with both companies.'

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before her, not to refer the proposed merger between London Merchant Securities Ltd. and The New River Co. Ltd. to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Prices and Scotland

Scots are wrong to believe that they are worse off than people in other parts of the country, according to Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Prices and Consumer Protection. Mr. Maclennan was speaking to the Institute of Marketing in Edinburgh on 6 November.

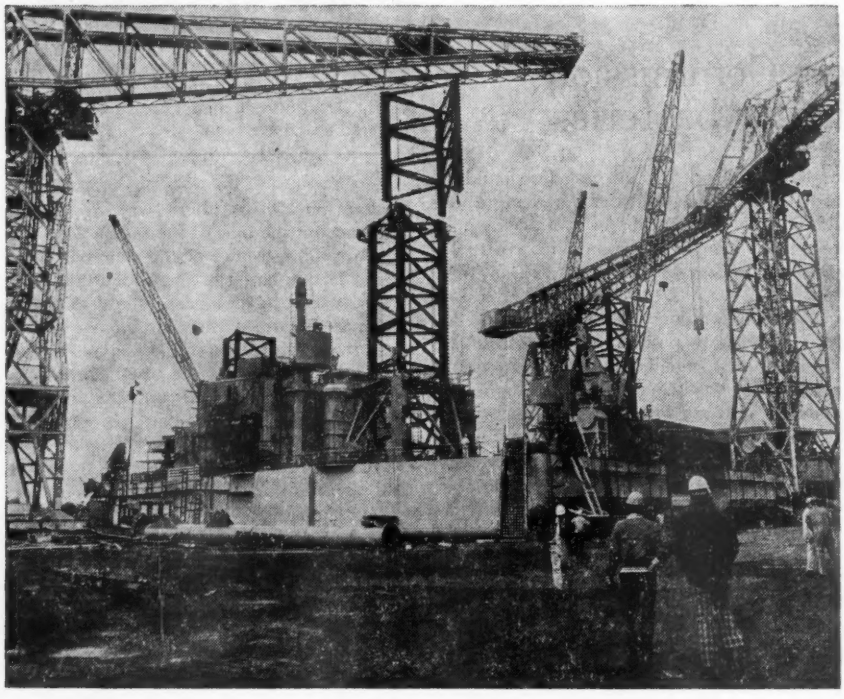
The Minister said: 'It is frequently assumed in Scotland that prices are higher than they are in other parts of Britain and argued from this that there should be a United Kingdom pricing policy. I think it dangerous to assume that Scotland would necessarily always gain from a United Kingdom common price. In some areas such as electricity, coal and housing we would almost certainly lose.

'Notwithstanding the difficulties of making these comparisons, such evidence as we have does not bear out the view that prices across the board in Scotland are more than marginally out of line with price levels in other parts of the country. Nonetheless, industry will recognise that such disparities as there are require to be justified or they will fuel discontents stemming from the wrong belief that Scots are materially worse off than their compatriots in other parts of the country.

'It is right that we should have the best possible information about the differences which do exist, however, and in making comparisons as between prices in different parts of the country we must bear in mind that each shopper spends money differently and that what would be contained in a typical weekly shopping basket does vary quite substantially from one part of the country to another.

'There are inevitably differences in the pricing of goods owing to turnover, the nature and size of the outlet and other such considerations but, in a country so geographically small as Great Britain, where points of production are so close to points of sale, it is reasonable that the public should feel that there ought not be be wide geographical differences in pricing.

'The Government has borne this very much in mind in developing its policies on food subsidies to ensure that the benefit of these subsidies should be felt throughout the country, for example, the special subsidy for milk in the Scottish Islands. Though there are difficulties in eliminating these price differences entirely and in introducing flat rates throughout the country, even for subsidised goods, we are considering how best we can reduce such differences as there are. We look for a similar approach in industry itself.'



Some 500 of the Clyde's shipbuilders have adapted their long experience to the building of the 'Key Victoria', a 7,000-tonne self-contained offshore drilling and construction unit, aptly described as the 'steel octopus'. The new jackup offshore vessel is rapidly taking shape at the Clydebank yard of Marathon Shipbuilding for Gulf Oil and will leave shortly for Cabinda, Zaire, where it will work in about 10 ft. of water. The unit is a triangular three-legged jackup rig, capable of drilling in water depths of up to 200 ft. (60 m.). The steel triangular sections will be 208 ft. high (63.39 m.) when leaving the yard to pass under the Erskine Bridge across the Clyde, and they will subsequently be extended to 289 ft. (88 m.). A 250-tonne capacity still-leg crane on board can be used for setting well jackets and offshore platform modules. It can also be used for driving piles and in offshore repair work. 'Key Victoria' is also equipped with pipelaying facilities including a tensioner and other equipment to handle pipes with diameters up to 24 in.

Merchant Shipping Act 1974

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping at the Department of Trade, has signed the Merchant Shipping Act 1974 (Commencement No. 1) Order 1974, which brings into effect certain sections of the Merchant Shipping Act 1974.

The main sections concerned are those relating to the design and construction of oil tankers, those relating to the safety of submersibles and the section which brings about changes in disciplinary provisions affecting seamen.

The Merchant Shipping Act 1974 is to a certain extent an 'enabling' Act. This Order brings into effect certain provisions of the Act, some of which will require Regulations to be made later.

The section on the design and construction of oil tankers is intended to prevent the pollution of the sea by tankers and enables certificates to be granted by the Department to tankers complying with the rules. It brings into effect the provisions of the Act regulating the limitation of the size of individual tanks in tankers.

The Order also brings into force the provisions of the Act enabling the Secretary of State to make Regulations governing the safety of submersibles.

The section on disciplinary provisions amends certain sections of the Merchant Shipping Act 1970, one of the points being that maximum fines for certain offences endangering the ship or its crew are increased from £200 to £400, while two other offences were repealed.

It was announced on 24 July 1974, that Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, had set up two working groups on disciplinary requirements, one for the Fishing Industry and the other for the Merchant Navy. The two groups will in due course make recommendations on all aspects of disciplinary needs.

The Merchant Shipping Act 1974 (Commencement No. 1) Order 1974 is published by HMSO price 4p (7½p including postage) as Statutory Instrument 1974/1792.

ECGD addresses

The Export Credits Guarantee Department's head office is at Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel. 01-606 6699). ECGD has 10 local offices in various parts of the United Kingdom, and these are listed from time to time in *Trade and Industry*.

'Government has demonstrated its faith in coal' says Eric Varley

The Government has demonstrated its faith in the coal industry and aims to stand by its part in the social contract, said Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, at the Coal Industry Society Lunch on 4 November. The ordinary miner now had the chance to confound his critics by spelling out his faith in the industry by steady increases in production and productivity and by harmonious industrial relations.

'We came into office after three months of an overtime ban and a month of full strike in the pits, said Mr. Varley. 'The damage done to the mining industry and the coal trade was enormous. The overtime ban, the strike and the recovery period taken together, resulted in the loss of one-fifth of a full year's national output. Essential development and maintenance work accumulated in the pits. During months of industrial unrest, some 600 trained miners chose to leave the industry each week.

'After the strike men had to be taken off their normal production duties in order to train new recruits in replacement of this lost manpower. All of these factors placed a tremendous load on the industry. It was essential to end the crippling strike. And I am pleased to report that the manpower drainage has been stemmed.

'The strike was our immediate problem but we also turned quickly to the longer term future. As Secretary of State I immediately invited the leaders of the coal unions and the Chariman of the National Coal Board to discuss with me the setting up of a Tripartite Examination into the future of the coal industry with the aim of giving the industry a new status and security.

'This was a very special exercise in joining together Government, management and unions in a free and open discussion of our possibilities and problems and the steps we should take to overcome them. We have worked together over these past eight months to achieve a social contract within one industry which I believe may be a model for relationships elsewhere. All who have taken part will have been impressed by the constructive attitude and the will to succeed. The Interim Report was published in June and the Final Report is being published today.

'The potential market for coal, providing it remains competitive, is 150 million tons in the mid-1980s. In the industry we all know how demand has risen and how customers who might have switched to other fuels are now turning back to coal. It is up to us to see that these demands can be met.

'The main market will be our power stations. The electricity supply industry have made clear their desire to take much more coal. They are looking to a coal-burning capacity of at least 100 million tons by 1985. The iron and steel industry is in a similar position. They have also told us they can take more too.

'In other industry, ground has been lost steadily for a number of years, but the Board and the Chamber of Coal Traders now have the opportunity to stem this trend. Finally, and of special concern to the merchants present today, is the domestic market, which the producers and distributors are working so hard together to retain, expecially through the Solid Fuel Advisory Service. This comparatively new organisation has got off to a splendid start and I wish it well most warmly. To the coal trade, particularly, I would stress that I see a real role for domestic solid fuel for as far ahead as one can plan.'

Mr. Varley then outlined some of the Government plans for the place of coal in future energy requirements.

'Firstly, we gave our general approval to the NCB's Plan for Coal to provide for 42 million tons of new capacity to the industry to replace inevitable losses through exhaustion. This will mean an increase in investment in mining at a rate of 75 per cent a year above that of recent years.

'We have promised that in examining the investment for coal we will take a long term view of energy prices and most important, in view of the history of recent years, we will take steps, financial or otherwise, to protect the industry against short term fluctuations in the prices of other fuels. We have learned the lesson of last October. Coal must not be allowed to become again the victim of forces outside our control.

'This pledge is of the greatest importance to men who have for so long felt their insecurity in a contracting industry and have faced for so long the spectre of redundancy.

'We have promised that, subject to the usual planning procedures, we will support the proposals for the great new coalfield at Selby – a discovery as exciting as the greatest oil find in the North Sea.

'There was one other especially important section in the Interim Report of our Tripartite Examination of the coal industry. Many people in this hall know someone suffering from pneumoconiosis.

'It came to my attention that a group of test cases on behalf of pneumoconiosis victims were going to be fought in the Courts. I was sickened by the idea. First, at the thought that victims of this disease should have to struggle for the compensation that ought to be their rightful due. Second, because I was only too well aware that by the time these long drawn out test cases were settled, a number of the 39,000 sufferers from pneumoconiosis would no longer be around to collect their compensation. They would have gone to a place where compensation could not reach them.

'So again, I had talks with the Unions and the NCB. The outcome was an *agreed* pneumoconiosis compensation scheme which combines justice with dignity.

'We have also been discussing with the Coal Board their pension arrangements for mineworkers. I hope that with the help of our financial contribution the Board will be able to set up a satisfactory earnings related pension scheme for all mineworkers.

'Nor have we forgotten a longer term future for coal. Alex Eadie has been chairing a Working Party looking into research and development in coal conversion so that the vast reserves which we have in this country can be exploited for other uses well into the next century. The Final Report of the Examination contains recommendations for Government support for research and development.

'There is now a tremendous opportunity for coal to ensure its own future and contribute to the needs of the nation. In the Coal Industry Examination the Government and the industry have been identifying the possibilities and proposing ways in which they can be achieved. The Government has fulfilled its side of the bargain with the measures which I have described.

'All sides of the industry tell me they are in full agreement on the need to raise output to its full potential. The National Executive Committee of the NUM has pledged the Union to play its full part in increasing production, whatever might develop on the bonus scheme. And it has committed its members to co-operate with the Board in reaching the jointly agreed output targets for this year and future years. I have been greatly heartened by Joe Gormley's statement in which he spoke of the determination of the union to play a full part in increasing production.

'We are still a long way short of this year's target of 120 million tons of deepmined coal. As the two Reports of the Coal Industry Examination have shown, the fact is that there is today a demand for coal much in excess of current production levels, and over the next few years demand could grow to 150 million tons or more.

'The industry could today be providing nearly 130 million tons from deepmined capacity alone if its operations were geared to the highest possible efficiency. So the need is to use every possible means of lifting output quickly onto a higher plane. Along with the other two parties to the Examination, I subscribed to the statement in our two Reports which stressed the part that a sound and effective incentive scheme could play in this.

'The settlement of the details of the scheme are for the NCB and the NUM and we in the Coal Industry Examination agreed we would not discuss matters which were part of the regular conciliation and negotiating processes of the industry. All I want to say is this. It is of vital importance to both the industry and the nation to have more coal.

'We need it now, for the immediate months ahead, and we shall go on needing it next year and in the years which follow. I believe it can be got, given a real commitment on the part of everyone in the industry.

'My Cabinet colleagues have given me their full support and co-operation. The Department of Energy, and all who work in it, are putting their full weight behind me. The political will undeniably exists to give coal its chance.

'Mr. President, earlier I mentioned the social contract. It is always necessary in these highly charged days to emphasise that the

social contract is not solely about wages.

'It is also about providing security of employment and reliable conditions for those who work in industry.

'I believe that as far as the coal industry is concerned no Government could have done more in eight short months to fulfil its part of the social contract.

'The first decision we took was to allow the NUM to negotiate outside the contraints of Phase 3 and so settle the strike, and allow the miners to be treated as a special case.

'The decision we have taken to additionally invest £600 million in the industry which will mean £1,400 million of investment at current prices over the next 10 years.

'The assurance that short-term fluctuations in energy prices will not threaten the long-term future plans for the industry.

'The Drax B coal-fired power station.

'An Exchequer contribution to the mineworkers pension scheme.

'The pneumoconiosis compensation scheme involving a Government contribution of £100 million which provides justice for 39,000 ex-miners and working miners.

'These are some of the decisions we have taken over the last few months.

'The Government has demonstrated its faith in the coal industry and we aim to stand by our part of the social contract. Coal has never had a more beckoning future. Its workers and managers have never faced a more testing time than they will during the next few weeks.'

Further Government backing for coal industry

Further Government backing for the coal-mining industry in four important areas was announced in the Final Report of the Coal Industry Examination*, published on 4 November.

Subject to Parliamentary approval, the Government's support will take the form of:

- contribution of around £100 million towards an NCB scheme to provide early compensation of up to £10,000 to 39,000 pneumoconiosis sufferers;
- financial help in relieving existing pension fund deficiencies to assist in establishing an improved and earnings-related scheme for mineworkers;
- endorsement of long-term research into and development of new uses for coal;
- legislation to facilitate the development of the Selby coalfield and to promote the expansion of opencast coal production, in both cases subject to normal planning procedures.

The Government also pledges to consider dealing with any special problems which may arise through the NCB's heavy investment programme to secure 42 million tons extra capacity over the next 10 years.

In addition, it says that it will be prepared to act financially:

- if public policies prevent commercial pricing or impose exceptional burdens on the Board:
- to counteract the effect of any adverse fluctuations in demand resulting from short-term variations in the prices of competing fuel; and
- to provide assistance where certain coal products might be essential to the national interest.

The report records the work done by the Government, mining unions and NCB under the chairmanship of Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, since their tripartite Examination published its Interim Report in June.

In a foreword Mr. Varley states: 'The steps we have already taken show the faith we are placing in the industry and our commitment to its present and future success. Unions and managment recognise that to be in a position to capture future markets, the industry's immediate priority is to fulfil today's demands.'

The report adds that events since the publication of the Interim Report, have reinforced the parties' conviction that an efficient, competitive coal industry has an assured, long-term future.

It emphasises the importance all of them attach to a sound and effective production incentive scheme. It states: 'We have stressed ... the great opportunities for competitive coal in present circumstances, and the potential for expanding sales; and each day that passes reinforces the need for increased supplies of coal to meet the energy needs of the nation and to reduce the burden on the balance of payments of imported fuels. We hope therefore that the Board and the NUM can work out as soon as possible an effective and viable incentive scheme for the industry which fairly and justly rewards extra effort wherever it is applied and which will lead to a rapid increase in supplies to meet the demands of customers. The first essential is to satisfy and hold the industry's present markets. It would be a great pity if at this point of time the coal industry were to lose the advantage presented to it by the changed economic circumstances through inability to supply'.

Dealing with the NCB's 'Plan for Coal' to provide more than 40 million tons of new capacity by 1985, the Report says that the Plan envisages that each coalfield will share in major investments. Already investment approved at existing collieries includes projects in Yorkshire, the Midlands, the North East of England, Scotland and South Wales.

* Coal Industry Examination: Final Report 1974 – obtainable free of charge from The Library, Department of Energy, Room 1020, Thames House South, Millbank, London, SW1.

'Coal facing its best opportunity for 20 years' says Alex Eadie

'The Government is determined to see a march forward on the basis of four major sources of energy – coal, gas, oil and nuclear' said Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, in Rhyl on 3 November.

Addressing a weekend school organised by the South Derbyshire Area NUM at their holiday centre in Rhyl, Mr. Eadie added: 'Those are the fuels for the foreseeable future, and that certainly takes us to the end of this century and no doubt well beyond in terms of coal. Coal is the only fuel that lies firmly planted underneath the ground on which we walk. It is a secure form of energy; it will last a very long time; and it must form the basis of all our calculations for the future. So my message for the medium and long term is that coal has not merely turned the corner, it can see stretching before it a whole new future.'

Reminding his audience that the Government had pledged that coal would no longer be subject to short-term price fluctuations of competing fuels, including oil, Mr. Eadie went on:

'This means that what the coal industry must do is produce every ton of coal it can get out of the ground at the lowest possible cost, so that it not merely secures its present position – and it is highly competitive now – but maintains an absolutely unchallengeable position as an indigenous natural resource.

'So coal faces its best opportunity for two decades. There is a demand for 120 million tons now, and a potential demand of up to 150 million tons in the 1980s.

'It is important to us all – to the nation, the Government and not least to the workers in the industry – that this opportunity is seized, and I welcome the promise given by the miners' leaders that the industry will produce the goods.

'The rewards waiting to be grasped are great. And not only in terms of cash. The biggest prize of all which is waiting is the prize for which we have waited so long – that of a stable, secure and expanding coal industry.

'It is the task of those in the industry to ensure that the ways and means of securing this prize are effectively and fairly worked out; to ensure that this great chance is not missed and the prize thus snatched away.'

Technology News

Technology collaboration between the UK and Finland

The fourth meeting of the Joint Commission for promoting technological co-operation between Finland and the United Kingdom took place in London from 28 October to 1 November 1974. Periodic meetings are provided for in the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two Governments in December 1970.

The main task of the Commission, a mixed body of officials and industrialists, is to promote further industrial co-operation and exchange of scientific and technological information and know-how in the fields of interest to the industrial enterprises and research institutions of both countries. In the four years in which the Memorandum of Understanding has been in existence a wide range of topics has been brought before the Commission including computer software, waste recycling, food technology and corrosion prevention.

At its formal meeting on 28 October the Commission reviewed the areas in which collaboration could be of benefit to both sides. There was a useful exchange of views and a detailed discussion of special sectors of possible activity. This meeting also saw the introduction of new topics including the reclamation of waste materials, disposal of dangerous chemicals, de-inking of old newspapers and process control. Agreement was reached on a number of practical steps to be taken over the coming year:

1 The Commission should identify some product areas (eg electronics, materials handling) for future discussion and examination as suitable for technical co-operation

2 Documentation should be arranged of information about work carried out in universities, research institutes and similar bodies, to facilitate the exchange of know-how.

3 Consideration should be given to seminars and the presentation of technical papers for learned bodies and industry in both countries.

An intensive programme of industrial visits was arranged beginning with a visit to Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, where the Commission had discussions and saw demonstrations of waste recycling and disposal and industrial pollution. Dr. Feates, of the Hazardous Materials Section of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, spoke to the Commission in London about the work of his section in the disposal of dangerous chemicals.

The Commission also visited Alfred Herbert Ltd., Coventry, for discussions and demonstrations on group technology and GEC Elliott Automation, Leicester, for discussions and demonstration of process equipment and testing. The programme ended with visits to Plessey Ltd., Ilford, for discussions on electronics and aerospace technology and Phoenix Timber Ltd., Rainham, for the demonstration of a timber grading computer and woodworking machinery.

The Finnish team was led by Mr. P. Rekola, Director-General of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and the UK team was led by Mr. G. Lanchin, Commercial Relations and Exports Division, Department of Trade.

The next meeting will be held in Finland in the autumn of 1975.

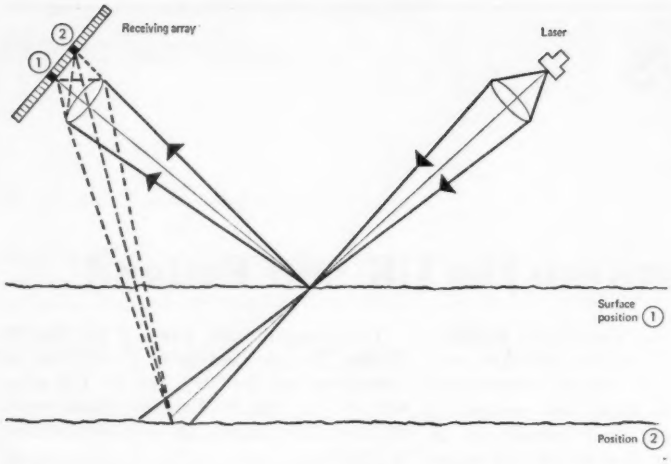
Urban planning and the environment

Urban planning is the subject of the latest (No. 7) in a series of booklets on Technology and the Environment issued by the Data and Information Systems Unit of the Department of Industry. The booklets serve as a forum through which UK Scientific Counsellors at British Embassies and High Commissions report on aspects of environmental development in overseas countries and their inter-relation with technology.

This latest booklet includes reports on various aspects of urban planning in Japan, the United States, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, the USSR and France.

The booklets are made available on a limited circulation within the United Kingdom only by the Overseas Technical Information Unit, Department of Industry, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN (tel. 01-834 4422, ext. 302/601).

Anglo-Finnish Joint Technological Commission delegations and observers. Left to right (sitting) D. J. R. Hack, Department of Trade; M. Dowding, consultant; P. Rekola, chairman, Finnish delegation; G. Lanchin, chairman, UK delegation; Brigadier B. Chichester-Cooke, consultant; (standing) C. H. Godden, First Secretary (Commercial) British Embassy, Helsinki; N. Barclay, Confederation of British Industry; E. Naentakanen, Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Dr. P. Linko, Finnish Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Dr. J. Larinkari, Federation of Finnish Chemical Industries; A. Castren, Central Association of Finnish Woodworking Industries; S. Nevalainen, Finnish State Institute for Technical Research; Dr. R. Roberts, Culham Laboratory; V. Virkkala Kone Oy; M. Nuutila, Association Finnish Metal and Engineering Industries; C. F. Machin, ETC member for Finland; J. J. Lehtovaara, scientific attache, Finnish Embassy, London; R. Lavery, Culham Laboratory; Miss B. Simmons and G. Burn, Department of Trade.



Above: The trailer which houses the sensor and the recording equipment on board the towing vehicle of the Transport and Road Research Laboratory's new system for the measurement of the road surface texture. Left: A simple diagrammatic arrangement of the optical system.

Measuring road surface texture

An improved way of verifying the high-speed skidding resistance of roads has been developed at the Transport and Road Research Laboratory, of the Department of the Environment, and is described in a report just published.

Using this new system, long lengths of road can be surveyed quickly wtihout the need for road closure.

An optical contactless displacement sensor has been used on experimental road surfaces to measure a wide range of texture depths. Results give a good correlation with those of the sand patch method; they are not subject to operator error, and give more complete coverage of the road surface.

The sensor is mounted in a trailer. It consists of an optical system, using a pulsed semiconductor laser with a means of detecting the energy scattered back from the road surface when the laser beam is directed obliquely at the surface. By mounting a small computer in the towing vehicle the texture data can be derived immediately and continuously at 50 km. per hour. The cost of a complete system, including the towing vehicle, is approximately £7,500.

Copies of the report – Transport and Road Research Laboratory Report 639: 'Measurement of road surface texture by a contactless sensor' – may be obtained by writing to the Director Transport and Road Research Laboratory, Crowthorne, Berkshire, or by telephoning the Library at Crowthorne (03446) 3131, ext. 2784.

Improving production through group technology

Group Technology will be the subject of a one-day seminar to take place in the Birniehill Institute at the Department of Industry's National Engineering Laboratory, East Kilbride, Glasgow, on 4 December 1974. The seminar is another in the continuing series aimed at helping British industry improve productivity.

Shortened manufacturing throughput times leading to reduced stocks and work-in-progress can be achieved in batch manufacture by applying group technology. This is a relatively inexpensive and simple method of organising work flow by relocating machines and processes. It minimises transit times and gives improved control. Job interest and morale at worker level are improved because of reduced boredom and monotony.

The seminar is to give production engineers and senior management appreciation of principles involved. These apply not only to the machine shop but also to the design office. It will also explain steps necessary for implementation and help those attending to assess the feasibility of applying it in their own organisations. NEL staff will present the seminar. Representatives from industry will present case studies.

Details: Course Organiser, Birniehill Institute, National Engineering Laboratory, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QU (tel. East Kilbride 20222, ext. 570).

First Harwell course on wastes surveying

The first training course on 'Wastes Surveying' to be held by the UKAEA Atomic Energy Research Establishment was attended by representatives from Oxfordshire, Berkshire and 16 other local authorities. The course, held last week (4-8 November) at the Harwell Education Centre, was overscribed and further similar courses are planned for next year.

Under the Control of Pollution Act, all waste disposal authorities will be required to undertake a survey of all types of waste arising in their areas, and of the current methods of disposal. The survey is intended for use in planning future waste control. The Harwell Industrial Wastes Survey Unit, whose experience and know-how has been sought by industry as well as Government, has already participated in the first survey for the new County of Cheshire.

The Harwell course was designed to guide waste disposal officers, some of whom may have only a limited chemical background, through the intricacies of planning and carrying out these surveys. The course covered relevant legislation, the work of waste disposal authorities and contractors, as well as studies on waste and different methods of disposal. There were practical sessions to give the students an opportunity to learn and practise techniques for simplifying the tasks of planning a survey, for obtaining background information and for interpreting findings.

Minitram at Croydon

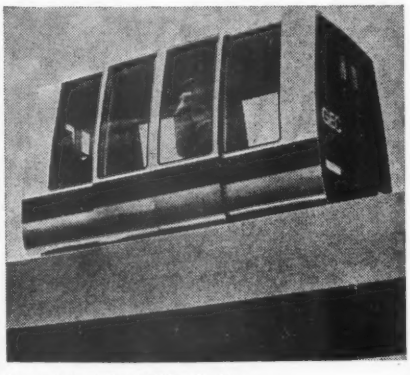
A model of the GEC Minitram was displayed at the New Addington Transit Exhibition held in Croydon last week (6-9 November) to enable the public and local authorities to evaluate the Minitram concept as a means of linking the centre of Croydon with nearby New Addington.

The GEC Minitram arose from studies sponsored by the Department of the Environment's Transport and Road Research Laboratory, Crowthorne, Berkshire. It has recently been shown in Sheffield, where the Department of the Environment, in co-operation with the local authority, is planning a Minitram public demonstration system.

Seen as a possible alternative means of urban transport to the private car, the GEC Minitram uses small, driverless, automatically-controlled vehicles, which run singly or linked on a narrow, segregated guideway, about 2 m wide. It can be installed at ground level, overhead or underground and can carry up to 20,000 passengers an hour on a single line. Because the vehicles are small they can be operated at short intervals, so reducing waiting time and the size of stations.

As the whole system is small, it should be visually unobtrusive, readily installed in city streets with closely spaced stations and would provide easy access for the public.

The GEC Minitram concept has been developed by EASAMS Ltd. in association with the advanced systems unit of GEC-Elliott Automation Ltd., GEC General Signal Ltd., GEC Traction Ltd. and the GEC Hirst Research Centre.



A model of the GEC Minitram.

Parliament

Monday, 4 November

Company law

Mr. Cryer (Keighley) asked if legislation would be introduced to alter the existing company law to prevent directors of companies which have gone into compulsory liquidation from forming new companies.

'The matter is presently being considered in relation to our proposals for future legislation,' answered Mr. Clinton Davis.

Trade with Japan

Mr. Ray Carter (Birmingham, Northfield) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade was satisfied with the ability of British industry to compete fairly with Japanese products.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The substantial increases in most British exports to Japan in recent years have demonstrated both the increased competitiveness of British industry and the extent to which restrictions on imports into the Japanese market have been removed.'

Broadcasting consumer information

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked what use the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection proposed to make of television and radio over the next 12 months to provide information and advice to consumers on prices, the price code, and other aspects of the Department's work.

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'My Department will continue to make the fullest possible use of television and radio at national, regional and local level, and in particular to maintain the very close and regular contact which has been established with the many consumer programmes.'

Sugar supplies

Mr. Robin Corbett (Hemel Hemstead) asked about steps being taken by the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection concerning the interests of consumers in obtaining regular sugar supplies.

Mr. Williams replied that retailers had been urged by the Department not to require old-age pensioners and regular customers known to them to buy other goods before supplying them with normal purchases of sugar. He went on: 'We have also suggested that shops relying on conditional sales to ensure a fair distribution of available supplies among other customers should exhibit a notice to this effect outside the shop so as to give such customers a chance to organise their shopping accordingly. The public can also help by not hoarding sugar.'

Food subsidies

An estimate was asked for by Mr. Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire) of expenditure on food subsidies in the current financial year and a comparison with the figure budgeted for in March; and with expenditure provided in each of the three previous financial years.

Mr. Williams replied that the estimated expenditure on food subsidies in 1974/75 was about £490 million, against the allocation of £550 million made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his March Budget.

'In 1971-72 there was no expenditure on food subsidies,' Mr. Williams said. 'In the two following years payments were made to Milk Marketing Boards to hold down the retail price of liquid milk. These payments amounted to £31 million in 1972-73 and £103 million in 1973-74. In addition, £8.5 million was spent in 1973-74 on the general butter subsidy.'

Fireworks

A statement was asked for by Mr. James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull West) about talks between the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection and manufacturers of fireworks regarding supplies to shopkeepers.

Mr. Williams said: 'I have decided that my Department, in consultation with the other departments concerned, will carry out a full review of the need for extending the existing controls over fireworks. The full range of possible measures will be considered including new or extended restrictions on the availability of fireworks to the general public, on the age at which fireworks may be purchased or used, on the period during which sales may be made, on the types of firework available and on the licensing of outlets. As part of the investigation we shall shortly be circulating a consultative document and inviting all interests concerned to give their views.'

Mr. Johnson also asked for the classified statistics for injured people with burns and other injuries treated in hospital on 5 November 1973; and when similar returns for 5 November 1974 would be available.

Mr. Williams answered: 'Statistics for personal injuries caused by fireworks requiring hospital treatment are collected annually covering a four-week period around 5 November. The figures for 1973, which relate to the period from 14 October to 10 November, are set out below. Those covering a comparable period in 1974 are expected to be available in February 1975. Burns are not separately distinguished in the statistics'.

FIREWORK INJURIES IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN 1973

Total number of persons injured	1,186
A. Place where injury occurred:	
(i) Family or private party	385
(ii) Public or semi-public party in park or open space	153
(iii) Casual incident in street	422
(iv) Other place	119
(v) Unknown	107
B. Type of firework involved:	
(i) Banger	356
(ii) Rocket	118
(iii) Jumping cracker	58
(iv) Display firework	280
(v) Home-made or extracted powder	38
(vi) Other than above	79
(vii) Unknown	257
C. Age group of persons injured:	
(i) Over 21	195
(ii) 16-20	74
(iii) 13-15	248
(iv) Under 13	669
D. Severity of injury	
(i) Died	Nil
(ii) Detained more than one night	80
(iii) Other severe injury	178
(iv) Minor injury	892
(v) Unknown	36

A question was also asked by Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) on further progress in curbing firework accidents resulting from negotiations with the firework manufacturers; and about plans for phasing out jumping crackers.

'Statistics of firework accidents show that jumping crackers cause more injuries in relation to numbers sold than other varieties of firework' replied Mr. Williams. 'Following

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Ministers of State: Eric Heffer
Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

discussions with the Home Office, firework manufacturers have agreed voluntarily to phase out production of jumping crackers and I understand they will not be put on sale next year.'

Mr. Roberts also inquired what progress had been made in the preparation of a Code of Conduct for organised firework displays following the consultations with the Greater London Council, the Firework Makers Guild and the National Campaign for Firework Reform.

Mr. Williams said: 'A guidance note on organised firework displays has been prepared jointly by the Home Office, the Firework Makers' Guild, the National Campaign for Firework Reform and the Greater London Council. The guidance, which replaced a number of previous separate documents produced by individual bodies, was circulated to local authorities and fire authorities throughout the country on 30 September. Over 4,000 additional copies have since been supplied in response to demands from local authorities.'

Nationalisation

Mr. Churchill (Stretford) asked what plans the Government has for taking into public ownership industries or firms other than those listed in the Gracious Speech.

'The Government's proposals for the extension of public ownership were set out in the White Paper on 'The Regeneration of British Industry' answered Mr. Benn.

Mr. S. G. Thorne (Preston South) asked if plans have been finalised for consultation with blue and white-collar workers in the aircraft industry on the form of public ownership of the aircraft industry, particularly with reference to industrial democracy.

'We hope to begin full and wide ranging consultations in the near future probably on the basis of a published document' said Mr. Benn.

Mr. Tom King (Bridgwater) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would respect the views of all those employed in an industry when determining whether to proceed with nationalisation; and, if so, whether such views would be obtained by secret ballot.

'In the industries for which I am responsible, referred to in the Gracious Speech,' replied Mr. Benn, 'representatives of the employees have already long expressed themselves overwhelmingly in favour of public ownership.'

Mr. Anderson (Swansea East) asked if a general directive would be given where appropriate to nationalised industries to move headquarters out of London and into development areas like Wales.

Mr. Benn replied: 'The nationalised industries for which I have responsibilities are aware of the Government's regional policies and provide substantial employment in the development areas. In recent years there has been significant dispersal of headquarters work from London and this is continuing. I shall certainly encourage it.'

Questions were asked by Mr. Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex) and Mr. Ioan L. Evans (Aberdare) on the establishment and composition of a National Enterprise Board.

Mr. Heffer replied that provisions for the establishment and the financing of the National Enterprise Board would be dealt with in the Industry Bill which would be introduced as soon as possible in the current Session. 'An announcement about the composition of the Board will be made at the appropriate time,' he said.

Hawker Siddeley

Questions were asked by Mr. Patrick Wall (Haltemprice), Mr. Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington), Mr. Tam Dalyell (West Lothian), Sir Derek Walker-Smith (East Hertfordshire) and Mr. James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull West) on representations with Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd., and the future of the H.S.146 plane.

Mr. Benn answered that the Government was still considering the future of this project. He had already met the management and the unions separately but, like the unions, he was anxious to set up a tripartite meeting which would cover all the areas of mutual interest.

Mr. Kenneth Warren (Hastings) asked what cost control data had been required by HM Government to protect the taxpayer's investment in the H.S.146 project; and for a statement on policy towards the future financing of the project.

Mr. Benn said: 'Under the contract Hawker Siddeley Aviation have to provide the Government with regular, financial and technical information on the progress of the project. I am still considering the future of the project.'

Mr. Raphael Tuck (Watford) and Mr. Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury asked if Hawker Siddeley would be nationalised.

'Legislation to bring the aircraft industry into public ownership will be introduced as soon as is practicable' said Mr. Benn.

Rolls-Royce engines

Mr. Peter Rost asked if the Secretary of State for Industry was withholding approval to British Airways for an initial order of Boeing Jumbo jets to be powered by Rolls-Royce Dash 524 engines.

Mr. Benn answered: 'I have informed Rolls Royce (1971) Ltd. that the Government will give them financial backing for the supply of the RB211-524 for use in the Boeing 747 when an order has been obtained from another major airline in addition to British Airways. In the meantime the development work necessary to permit the installation of the RB211-524 in the Boeing 747 is continuing both at Rolls Royce (1971) Ltd. and at Boeing so that no slippage is resulting in the date at which these aircraft can be delivered to British Airways.'

Ship repair industry

Mr. R. C. Mitchell (Southampton, Itchen) asked what consultation had been held with management and trade unions regarding the future development of the ship repair industry in Southampton.

'None Sir,' replied Mr. Meacher. 'My Department is arranging to hold discussions about the recent consultants' report on the industry with the major national bodies concerned with the ship repair industry, including employers and unions, and I would hope that local representatives would in the meantime await the outcome of these discussions.'

BSC closures

Mr. Michael Marshall (Arundel) and Mr. David Lambie (Central Ayrshire) asked questions about the British Steel Corporation's closure review and the Corporation's 10 years' strategic plan.

Mr. Benn answered: 'My Rt. Hon. and Noble Friend the Minister of State is now carefully considering the many representations he has received in the course of his consultations on the proposed closures at Ebbw Vale, East Moors, Hartlepools steelmaking, Shelton and Shotton arising out of the BSC's development plans. He will be visiting Scotland next week to see nine plants likely to be affected there and to hold similar discussions. I am well aware of the need to resolve the present uncertainty and an announcement will be made as soon as possible.'

A Question was also asked by Mr. Peter Morrison (City of Chester) about the steel-making process at the Shotton Steelworks.

Mr. Meacher answered that the Minister of State, had undertaken extensive consultations with the BSC, the TUC Steel Committee, the workers involved and other local interests about the future of iron and steelmaking and hot-rolling at Shotton. He was now carefully considering the many representations which have been made to him. 'I am well aware of the need to resolve the present uncertainty, and an announcement will be made as soon as possible,' said Mr. Meacher.

A statement on the future of the steel industry in Scotland was asked for by Mr. W. W. Hamilton (Central Fife).

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The British Steel Corporation's development strategy provides for the investment of some £400 million in Scotland in the period to 1980. By the early 1980's the Corporation expect public sector steelmaking capacity in Scotland to have risen by almost 30 per cent from current levels.

'In Scotland as elsewhere the Corporation's plans envisage the closure of their older and less economic plant. This aspect of their development strategy is being reviewed by my Rt. Hon. and Noble Friend the Minister of State, Lord Beswick, who will be visiting Scotland next week to see the workers and consult those who would be affected. He will subsequently hold a tripartite discussion in London on the proposed Scottish closures, with the Corporation and the TUC Steel Committee, including representatives of the works affected.'

Industrial development

Mr. Hal Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would raise the limit for industrial development certificates in the West Midlands.

Mr. Heffer answered: 'No, Sir. The Government has strengthened the IDC control in order to ensure that the needs of the Assisted Areas receive first priority; nevertheless each application for an IDC is considered on its merits.'

Mr. Arthur Blenkinsop (South Shields) asked how many applications for industrial development in the north east had been approved during the quarter ended 30 September as compared with the previous quarters of this year; and for a statement on the prospects for industrial development in the north east.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'Industrial development certificates have not been required

in northern England since July 1972 when Development and Special Development Areas were excluded from the operation of the IDC control. Offers of selective financial assistance under the Industry Act 1972 in the first three quarters of 1974 in chronological order were 35, 32 and 28 and were expected to provide 3,018, 2,070 and 2,633 jobs respectively.

'The measures announced in the Gracious Speech for the regeneration of British industry will improve the prospects of industrial development in the north east.'

'What steps are being taken' asked Mr. Giles Radice (Chester-le-Street) 'to bring down the unemployment figures in the Northern Region?'

Mr. MacKenzie answered that the doubling of the Regional Employment Premium, announced in the Chancellor's statement on 22 July, was intended to help areas such as the Northern Region with unacceptably high rates of unemployment. A careful watch will be kept on the situation.

Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked if a study had been made of the effectiveness of regional development policies; and what additional steps are planned to attract industry to areas like Cannock Chase with a high level of unemployment but outside development and intermediate areas.

'The effectiveness of regional policies is the subject of continuing study by my Department,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'It is the Government's policy to aim for a high level of activity and employment throughout the country.'

Fuel consumption

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked the Secretary of State for Energy for information on the approximate percentage economy in fuel consumption of a diesel as compared with a petrol engine, weight for weight and power for power.

Mr. John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, answered: 'Recent tests were carried out on behalf of the Department of Industry on two similar cars, one fitted with a petrol and the other with a diesel engine of comparable horse power, which were driven on a roller path dynamometer over a wide range of driving conditions. The saving in fuel was almost 20 per cent in favour of the diesel engined vehicle.'

North Sea oil

Mr. Ian Campbell (West Dunbartonshire) asked for an estimate of the number of concrete oil platforms required for off-shore oil by 1978.

Mr. John Smith said: 'Six concrete oil platforms have already been ordered for installation in the UK sector of the North Sea: our present estimate is that up to 18 more platforms will be required for float out by 1978, of which the majority are likely to be concrete.'

Tuesday, 5 November

Nationalised industries

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) wanted to know the number of worker representatives on the boards of each of the nationalised industries.

'None on the boards of those nationalised industries for which I am responsible,' replied Mr. Benn. 'I have invited the unions in these industries to give consideration to the possibilities for advancing industrial democracy and shall consider their proposals when they come in.'

Imports of steel

Mrs. Winifred Ewing (Moray and Nairn) asked for information on the Secretary of State for Industry's policy on the extent of the importation of steel to the United Kingdom from other countries as to quantity, increased home production and on reduction of imports.

'There are no quantitative restrictions on imports of steel and steel products into the United Kingdom,' replied Mr. Meacher. 'The British Steel Corporation's development strategy envisages an increase of some 40 per cent in United Kingdom steelmaking capacity over the next decade so as to help meet home demand, thereby reducing the need for imports and also provide for substantial imports.'

PVC leathercloth

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked what proportion of the total sales of PVC leathercloth in the UK home market (by volume) was represented by imported products during the first quarter of 1974; and how this compared with the corresponding proportion during the first quarter of 1973.

Mr. Deakins answered that figures for total sales and imports and exports are not fully comparable but that the estimated proportion of the home market for PVC leathercloth represented by imports in the first quarter of 1974 was 37 per cent. The corresponding proportion for the first quarter of 1973 was 25 per cent.

Wednesday, 6 November

DPCP staff

The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection was asked by Mr. Michael Latham (Melton) to state the total number of staff in post in her department on 1 April 1974, 1 July 1974, and 1 November 1974; and the total authorised establishment

Mrs. Williams replied: 'The total number of staff in post in my Department was 211 on 1 April 1974, 278 on 1 July 1974 and 304 on 1 November 1974. The present authorised establishment is 332. These totals do not include the staffs of the Metrication Board, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, the Office of Fair Trading and the Price Commission for which I have responsibility.'

Food subsidies

An estimate was asked for by Mr. Douglas Hurd (Mid-Oxon) of the total cost to public funds of food subsidies during the financial year 1974-75 and the comparable estimate as at 28 February 1974.

Mr. Maclennan replied that the latest estimate of the cost of food subsidies in 1974-75 was about £490 million. On 28 February 1974 £9 million was allocated for the general butter subsidy and, though it was clear that the sum would not be sufficient to hold the price of milk at its then level, £50 million was provisionally allocated for the subsidy on liquid milk.

Mr. Latham also inquired the average weekly saving for a typical family of two adults and two children resulting from the cheese subsidy.

Mr. Maclennan said that on the basis of the National Food Survey results for the second quarter of 1974, the estimated average saving was 6p per week.

Another Question by Mr. Latham concerned the amount by which the £30 million originally allocated for cheese subsidy in 1974-75 had been increased; and the proportion of the new total to be allocated to each of the varieties of cheese eligible for subsidy.

'The estimate has been increased by £0.5 million,' said Mr. Maclennan. 'Statistics are not available for each individual variety, but the table below shows the estimated expenditure for the main groups based on forecasts of consumption in 1974/75.

Type	Cost (£ million)	Proportion of total cost (per cent)
Cheddar	22.1	72.5
Cheshire, Caerphilly, Derby, Double Gloucester, Dunlop, Lancashire, Leicester, Wensleydale, White Stilton	5.5	18.0
Danbo, Edam, Elbo, Esrom, Fynbo, Gouda, Havarti, Maribo, Molbo, St. Paulin, Samsoe, Svenbo, Tybo	2.4	7.9
Processed cheese, cheese spreads and powdered cheese	0.5	1.6
	30.5	

Company liquidations

Mr. Newton (Braintree) asked if the Department of Trade would publish monthly statistics of the number of company liquidations.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied that annual statistics of company liquidations are already published. Some monthly and quarterly figures are available and these are supplied on request. Regular publication at more frequent intervals is being considered.

A further Question by Mr. Newton was about the number of company liquidations in each year for the last 10 years; and how many in each month of 1974 to the latest available date.

Mr. Clinton Davis gave the following numbers of company liquidations in England and Wales for the relevant periods:

LIQUIDATIONS

	Compulsory	Creditors Voluntary	Members Voluntary
1964	724	1,383	3,051
1965	805	1,796	4,073
1966	934	2,322	8,190
1967	1,230	2,235	4,908
1968	1,108	2,109	6,108
1969	1,181	2,376	4,940
1970	1,269	2,420	4,579
1971	1,166	2,340	4,450
1972	1,150	1,913	4,680
1973	1,080	1,495	4,297
1974			
January	81	125	252
February	95	159	303
March	88	168	476
April	105	195	379
May	83	184	294
June	120	158	222
July	184	169	329
August	12	185	254
September	32	251	217
	800	1,594	2,726

The liquidation statistics and other information about companies are contained in the Companies Annual General Reports for 1973 and previous years, copies of which are in the library.

Investment intentions

A table was requested by Mr. Newton which would show the latest figures for investment intentions by manufacturing and by distributive and service

NCB DISPOSALS TO MERCHANTS ('000 tons)

	Annual				April to September	
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1973	1974
House coal	14,838	12,248	9,929	8,836	4,455	4,580
Naturally smokeless	1,893	1,660	1,496	1,380	739	771

industries, respectively, compared with the same period in 1973.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The Department's survey carried out in August/September 1974, results of which were published on 7 October 1974, indicated that the volume of manufacturers' capital expenditure would be 5 per cent higher in 1974 than in 1973 and would rise by a further, though smaller, amount in 1975. Expenditure by distributive and service industries was expected to fall by 5 per cent in 1974 and to show a further, but smaller, reduction in 1975. The survey carried out a year earlier indicated, for manufacturing, a strong increase of the order of 15 per cent in 1974 and, for distributive and service industries, a small increase in 1974. (1975 was not covered by that survey).

'A summary of the raw data from which the estimates for manufacturing industry were derived was published in *Trade and Industry* on 10 October 1974.

Financial assistance to industry

Questions were asked by Mr. Newton on showing financial advances made to firms, offers of financial assistance made to firms and the sums involved, and applications received by the Department of Industry for financial assistance under Section 7 of the Industry Act since 1 March 1944.

Mr. Heffer replied: 'Between 1 March and 30 September 1974, 876 applications for regional selective assistance (excluding shipbuilding) were received under Section 7 of the Industry Act. In the same period 593 offers totalling £41 million were made in respect of 400 projects which are expected to cost £380 million and provide 45,000 new jobs. Payments of regional selective assistance in the same period totalled nearly £12 million. I regret that for reasons of commercial confidentiality I am not able to list all the firms to whom offers were made. However, the names of companies who receive offers of £10,000 or more after 31 July will be published in the journal *Trade and Industry* in the quarter after the first payment is made in accordance with the arrangements the Secretary of State for Industry announced to the House on that date.'

Domestic coal deliveries

Details were asked for by Mr. George Gardiner (Reigate) of the current shortfall in normal deliveries of domestic coal to suppliers, and of steps being taken to improve the position, particularly in respect of deliveries of anthracite.

Mr. Eadie, Minister of State, Department of Energy answered: 'It is not possible to define normal levels and hence to measure shortfalls because of short term variations in coal deliveries and the long standing trend towards reduced domestic coal consumption. However, the figures below show higher deliveries during this summer compared with last, despite a steady decline in annual disposals between 1970 and 1973.

'NCB are continuing to make maximum possible supplies available, expecially of anthracite boiler fuels which are short following the strike in the pits and a subsequent strike at opencast sites and coal preparation plants. They hope to satisfy all contract commitments for the most popular of these grades throughout the winter, and are working with the coal trade to arrange distribution as equitably as possible.'

Insurance industry

Mr. Ernest Perry (Wandsworth, Battersea South) asked for a statement on the solvency and stability of the British insurance industry.

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'The British insurance industry continues to have a justified reputation world wide for its dependability and makes a major contribution of about £400 million a year to our foreign currency earnings. The industry has dealt remarkably well with the exceptional situation that it has had to face at home and abroad in the past year. I am confident that the industry generally is sound and stable. A few smaller companies have however got into difficulties and the industry has shown its strength by mounting voluntary schemes to rescue most of the policyholders concerned. Nevertheless, it is sensible for us now to give a firmer and more organised security to policyholders and we have therefore announced a compulsory scheme as an additional precaution.'

Industrial development in Norfolk

Mr. John Garrett (Norwich South) asked how many industrial development certificates have been given, and how many refused, in Norfolk for each year from 1970 to 1974, respectively, by industry; and for an estimate of the loss of jobs in the county as a result of the refusals.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'The numbers of industrial development certificates approved and refused for Norfolk in the years 1970 to 1973 and in the first nine months of 1974 are as follows:

Year	Approvals	Refusals
1970	120	Nil
1971	66	Nil
1972	42	Nil
1973	32	Nil
1974 (Jan. to Sept.)	33	1

I regret that for reasons of confidentiality details of the refusal cannot be disclosed.'

Note: The exemption limit below which IDCs are not required for development in Norfolk was raised in December 1970 from 3,000 sq. ft. to 5,000 sq. ft. and in July 1972 to 15,000 sq. ft. The limit was lowered to 10,000 sq. ft. on 1 September 1974.

Thursday, 7 November

Trade with EEC

Mr. Emlyn Hooson (Montgomery) asked for information on the current deficit on balance of trade between the United Kingdom and other members of the EEC.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'The trade deficit, measured on a balance of payments basis and seasonally adjusted, is provisionally estimated at £1,368 million in the first nine months of this year.'

New Coastguard flag

Mr. John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest) asked for a statement about the flag of Her Majesty's Coastguard Service.

'A distinctive ensign for HM Coastguard was considered appropriate for Coastguard stations on watch,' replied Mr. Clinton Davis. 'Her Majesty The Queen graciously gave her approval to a design, and the ensign was first hoisted at a commissioning ceremony on 28 October.'

Nationalised industries

Mr. Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked for a list of the programmes of capital expenditure approved for nationalised industries.

'Programmes of Capital Expenditure for the Nationalised Industries will be published in the coming White Paper on Public Expenditure to 1978-79,' answered Mr. Clinton Davis.

Shipbuilding, etc., interests of Court Line

Mr. Teddy Taylor (Glasgow, Cathcart) asked for an explanation of the basis on which a price of £16 million was agreed for the purchase of the shipbuilding, ship repairing and marine engineering interests of the Court Line; what sum was attributable to each company and subsidiary, respectively; and if, in particular, the price was arrived at on the basis of independently assessed up-to-date valuation of the assets.

Mr. Benn replied: 'The £16 million figure was the outcome of a negotiation between the Special Manager, appointed to assist the provisional liquidator of Court Line, and the Department. It was the Government's view that £16 million was a fair price to pay for the share capital of the Court Line subsidiaries that represented its shipbuilding, ship-repairing and associated interests, taking into account the special circumstances of the case and in particular the past trading records of the companies, their future prospects and their net assets; the Government's concern to safeguard the employment of over 9,000 people in assisted areas; and the additional costs of preserving these jobs if the companies had been allowed to go into liquidation. Almost all of this money was used to repay debts owing by Court Line to the companies that were acquired, and to meet liabilities of Court

Line and its travel subsidiaries which had been guaranteed by these companies. The shipbuilding, shiprepairing and associated interests of Court Line were purchased as a group and no value was attributed to the companies individually nor was any independent valuation carried out. However, the price took account of advice given by professional staff of my Department.'

Financial assistance to industry

Mr. Newton (Braintree) asked for figures showing financial advances made to firms under Section 8 of the Industry Act since 1 March 1974.

Mr. Heffer replied that between 1 March 1974 and 31 October 1974, financial advances to firms under Section 8 of the Industry Act totalled £2.8 million net plus £843,280 in payments under the Wool Textile Industry scheme.

Mr. Newton asked a similar Question about applications for financial assistance under Section 8 of the Act.

Mr. Heffer answered that formal applications for financial assistance under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 between 1 March 1974 and 31 October 1974 were as follows:

Applications assessed or under assessment	10
Applications under the Wool Textile Industry Scheme	88
Contracts registered under the Off-Shore Credits Scheme	75
	173

A list was asked for by Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) showing the recipients of financial assistance under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 before and after 28 February 1974, stating the amount of assistance and the date of payment in each case.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the following information:

	Amount	Date of payment
Before 28 February 1974		
Norton Villiers Triumph	£4.872 million	16.7.73
Kearney Trecker Marwin	£1.25 million	20.7.73
	£0.2 million	12.9.73
Since 28 February 1974		
Under the Wool Textile Industry Scheme, payments were made to 57 companies	£2.8 million (net) £843,280	15.8.74 Various

Small businesses

Mr. Clement Freud (Isle of Ely) asked when the Secretary of State for Industry would publish his proposals to cater for the special needs of small businesses.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'As the Government White Paper 'The Regeneration of British Industry' (Cmnd. 5710) recognises we are fully seized of the difficult financial problems of small businesses as broadly defined in the report of the Bolton Committee. Much has been done already but it is a problem which we shall bear earnestly in mind in framing future legislation and in current administration of Government business.'

Hovercraft development

Mr. Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) wanted to know how much public money in total has been spent and lent on hovercraft development.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The total public funds spent on hovercraft development amount to £16.6 million and a further £0.9 million is committed but not yet spent. The National Research Development Corporation has, however, so far recovered £2.2 million as a return on its expenditure of £5.2 million included in the total.'

Beef prices

Mr. Philip Whitehead (Derby North) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what representations have been made to her department about the level of retail prices charged for beef by butchers.

'We have received 27 letters about the retail prices of beef,' answered Mr. Williams. 'You will wish to know that at the Secretary of State's request the Price Commission have been asked to investigate these representations.'

North Sea oil

An estimate was asked for by Mr. Michael Spicer (South Worcestershire) of the number of years the British reserves of North Sea oil would be expected to last once production is at full capacity, assuming the United Kingdom supplies all her own oil needs.

Mr. John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, answered: 'This depends on the ultimate size of the reserves, which is not yet known; my Rt. Hon. Friend's report to Parliament in May quoted a possible total of up to 3,000 million tons for areas already licensed. It will also depend on the rate at which discoveries are made and brought on stream, and on UK demand for oil in the relevant period. None of these factors can be forecast with certainty at this stage.'

Friday, 8 November

Hosiery production

Mr. Greville Janner (Leicester West) inquired about the rate of growth in the production in the hosiery industry during the last year for which records are available; and the anticipated growth rate during the following 12 months.

Mr. Meacher said: 'The rate of growth of production in the various sections of the hosiery industry is shown in the table below. The latest complete year figures available are for 1973 and these have been compared with those for 1972. The growth likely to be achieved by the industry in 1974 is difficult to estimate given the current economic climate and the effect which the three day week may have have had on the 1974 production figures, but the indications are that the industry is unlikely to better its 1973 performance in volume terms.'

HOSIERY (SOCK, STOCKINGS AND TIGHTS)

	1972		1973					
					Thous. doz. pairs		% of thous.	
	Thous. doz. pairs	£ thous.	Thous. doz. pairs	£ thous.	+	−	+	−
Men's socks and stockings								
of wool	2,170	6,069	2,263	7,583	4		25	
of synthetic fibres	6,156	11,432	6,838	13,571	11		19	
of other fibres	226	517	229	597	1		15	
Women's socks, stockings and pantihose full length stockings								
Circular knitted	5,269	6,870	4,238	6,372		19		7
Fully fashioned	521	1,322	314	1,086		40		18
Tights and pantihose of synthetic fibres	42,755	59,031	42,724	61,050		Nil	3	
Ankle socks and three quarter socks	723	1,118	864	1,345	19		20	
Children's and infants' socks, three-quarter hose and stockings								
of wool	287	622	254	686		11	10	
of synthetic fibres	5,103	7,384	6,314	9,316	24		26	
of other fibres	385	519	315	465		18		10
All other hose, including theatrical stockings, and other hosiery not elsewhere specified		1,082		1,030				5

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Rolls-Royce aero engines

Mr. Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire) asked if British Airways had advised the Secretary of State for industry that it would like to have all its future Boeing jumbo jets powered by the Rolls-Royce Dash 524 engine; whether an order had yet been placed; and why an initial contract was still awaiting his approval.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'The British Airways Board has decided in principle that it would like the RB211-524 engine to power all Boeing 747 aircraft to be delivered to British Airways from 1977. My Rt. Hon. Friend has told the Board that he will be perpared to approve its proposed initial order for four of these aircraft once the Government's condition for providing financial backing for this application of the engine has been met.'

National Enterprise Board

Mr. Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would hold a referendum among those working in British industry, including managers, to ascertain whether they wish the National Enterprise Board to purchase a stake in their company; and whether he would allow his policies to be guided by the result of this referendum.

Mr. Heffer answered: 'It is Government policy that where proposals are made for the extension of public ownership to a particular industry or firm, the workers, as well as the other interests affected, will be consulted and their views will be taken into

account. In this, as in other matters, the National Enterprise Board will be expected to work within the framework of Government policy.'

Foreign shirts

The Reverend Robert Bradford (Belfast South) spoke of the dumping of foreign shirts which he said now represents 50 per cent of retail consumption in the UK and asked if steps would be taken to control these imports to restore confidence in the UK shirt industry.

'Imports of woven cotton and polyester cotton shirts from the main low-cost supplying countries are already restricted,' said Mr. Deakins, 'knitted shirts are not similarly limited but the question of restrictions on these goods is being considered in the context of the EEC negotiations with low-cost suppliers under the GATT Multi-Fibre Textile Arrangement. We have received no application from the industry for anti-dumping action on shirts, but my Department is always ready to consider applications for anti-dumping action which are supported by prima facie evidence that the products concerned are being dumped within the meaning of the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1969, and are causing or threatening material injury to the British industry.'

Financial assistance to industry

Mr. Newton (Braintree) inquired about offers of financial assistance made to firms under Section 8 of the Industry Act since 1 March 1974, and the sums involved.

Mr. Heffer said: 'Offers of assistance under Section 8 of the Industry Act between 1 March 1974 and 31 October 1974 have been made involving the following sums:

Kearney Trecker Marwin	£3.5 million, mainly in preference shares, for working capital.
Meriden Co-operative	£4.95 million for purchase of assets, and for working capital.
Alfred Herbert	Interim guarantee
Marine Oil Industry Repair and Maintenance	£360,000 in grants over 5 years.
Salvesen Offshore Holdings	£784,000 in grants over 4 years.

In addition there are two industrial schemes operating under Section 8 where applications are made under certain announced criteria of eligibility. On these offers have been as follows:

Wool Textile Industry Scheme	£4.4 million as grants and a further 19 offers whose value has still to be determined.
Off-Shore Credit Scheme	Contracts registered to date involve maximum qualifying borrowing of £71 million on 75 contracts. Grants related to these contracts could total about £8 million. No claims for payment have yet been made.

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

27 November 1974 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Lido Hall, Worthy Lane, Winchester, Hants.

Auctioneers: Austin & Wyatt (Dept. L), 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants. PO16 7AX (Tel: 03292-4211)

The lots which are lying at Andover, Chertsey, Gosport, Liphook, Woolston and other depots in that area include various machine tools, electrical and MT spares, aluminium, petrol engines, tyres, watches, binoculars, wood and metal boxes, jerricans, paint, cordage and a large collection of other miscellaneous items. There are 275 lots of clothing which include blankets, boots, blouses and trousers, greatcoats, pullovers, etc. and 150 lots of furniture containing bureaux, chairs, lockers, sideboards, tables, and wardrobes. Two Austin Gypsy trucks, two Land Rovers, Bedford utilibrake, Commer minibus and a Ford Cortina estate.

Catalogues for the above sale, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneer from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

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BOTB News

Far East construction industry conference

The British Overseas Trade Board and the Building Centre are holding a conference on the construction industry in the Far East. The conference will be held on Wednesday, 27 November at 3 pm, at the Building Centre, Store Street, London WC1, and follows the publication of the Board's report *Preliminary Appraisal of the Construction Industry Market.*

The conference will examine the overall conclusions of the report together with the detailed findings on each of the 11 countries – Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Khmer Republic (Cambodia), South Korea, Laos, South Vietnam and Brunei. It is expected that discussion will lead to detailed consideration of future development opportunities for suppliers of components, systems, machinery and services.

Further action can include the planning of trade missions by groups of manufacturers and suppliers; the conduct of specific product-orientated research in one or more countries; and direct assistance on the appointment of agents and related questions. In many instances financial assistance can be obtained from the British Overseas Trade Board, and the types of assistance will be explained at the conference.

Company executives wishing to attend the conference should send their £2.50 booking registration cheque to the Building Centre. Copies of the seven volume report are available to British manufacturers from the Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, price £15 post free or price £10 plus postage and packing, if ordered through a trade association or chamber of commerce.

First British Industrial Exhibition opens in Indonesia

The first British Industrial Exhibition to be held in Indonesia was opened last week in Jakarta by Professor Dr. Widjojo Nitisastro, Minister for Economy, Finance and Industry. With the support of British Overseas Trade Board, more than 30 British firms, including several new to the Indonesian market, exhibited.

Adam Malik, Indonesia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, said 'This first British Industrial Exhibition may provide an ample opportunity to seek new possibilities for further intensifying and increasing the existing healthy state of economic co-operation among the two countries.

'It is significant to note that the exhibition is taking place at the time when Indonesia is entering the first year of its Second Five Year Development Plan to further expand and modernise its economy. British engineering expertise, capital equipment and services will hopefully continue making contributions to these developments.

'New avenues of co-operation still have to be explored and I believe such exhibitions can greatly help to foster economic co-operation and trade relations and would thereby contribute to the promotion of the prosperity of the peoples of the two countries and the rest of the world.'

British firms are showing machine tools, electrical generating and power transmission equipment, welding and construction plant, air condition and refrigeration equipment and other products ranging from agricultural tractors and printing machinery to instrumentation and navigational aids. Exhibits have been selected for their suitability to the Indonesian market and with special reference to the Second Five Year Development Plan, 1974-79.

The exhibition concluded 13 November.

'Japan a good market for British photographic equipment'

'There is a good market in Japan for certain categories of industrial and specialised photographic and allied equipment', said Trevor Boon of the British Overseas Trade Board's Export to Japan Unit speaking recently at the annual general meeting of the British Photographic Export Group. Mr. Boon and three colleagues attended the meeting to explain the Board's proposal to hold an exhibition of British photographic equipment in March 1976 at the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo.

Already Japan is a growing market for certain categories of industrial and specialised photographic and allied equipment. This includes processing machinery, silver recovery processes and lighting, audio-visual and studio apparatus of which Britain is a leading producer. In the first seven months of this year we exported to Japan 74,144 miscellaneous cameras worth Yen 430.3 million (1973 total 108,520 worth Yen 55.3 million), 24 photographic enlargers worth Yen 207 million (1973 total 49 worth Yen 385.3 million) and 8,023 items of developing and printing equipment owrth Yen 241.8 million (1973 total 5,820 worth Yen 259 million).

The photographic equipment exhibition will offer an excellent opportunity to British firms wishing to make a sustained effort in this potentially highly rewarding market. Interested companies should contact the BPEG's secretary Mr. R. Saunders (tel. Uxbridge 33372) for further details.

Note

The British Export Marketing Centre puts on 10 major exhibitions a year with generous governmental assistance including free stand space, construction and design, free freight of exhibits, a publicity programme and a financial contribution towards exhibitors' travel costs. In most cases free market research into the relevant product sector is provided in advance of the exhibition.

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BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

Singapore: the centre of the market for offshore oil services in South-East Asia

by David Smallman, Second Secretary (Commercial), British High Commission, Singapore

The South-East Asian region is, like the United Kingdom continental shelf, an area of proven petroleum resources in which it is expected that the potential is greater than discoveries to date have shown. There is a significant amount of offshore exploration activity in the seas around Indonesia and in the Gulf of Thailand, in particular, but at present production from offshore fields is of only marginal significance.

Accurate production figures are not readily available but it is thought by the industry that Indonesian production is running at about 1.5 million barrels per day, of which a little over 5 per cent currently comes from offshore sources. The Indonesian state oil monopoly Pertamina had forecast a 2 million barrels per day output by 1974 and although this figure has not yet been attained it is likely that production will reach this figure by the end of this year.

The Shell company holds the concessions in Sarawak and Brunei and share those of Sabah (North Borneo) just about 50/50 with Esso. The Shell Companies of Sarawak and Brunei are reticent about releasing figures but Shell is known to be developing two offshore Sarawak fields – Baronia and Bakau – and industry's estimate of the combined current production for Brunei and Sarawak is around 320,000 barrels per day. East Malaysia (Sarawak and Sabah) has, so far, been shown to be richer in natural gas than liquid petroleum and natural gas is thus obviously of considerable commercial importance and multi-million dollar LNG plants are going up in Brunei and Sarawak, as well as in Java and Borneo.

Singapore, because of its geographical position and role as a hub of regional communications, connected to world routes, has become the 'centre' of the regional petroleum industry. It is perhaps unlikely that it will maintain this role indefinitely as operators and suppliers alike find it advantageous to have more than a 'front office' in the neighbouring territories. But for the time being the companies involved in the search for, and exploitation of, the region's petroleum and the suppliers of goods and services are headquartered in Singapore. There are more than 30 oil companies, more than 100 supply and service companies, as well as consultants, geophysical companies and drilling contractors based on the island.

As a result of these factors three offshore supply bases have been developed:

1 Loyang Marine Base is operated by Singapore Offshore Petroleum Services Pte. Ltd., a joint venture company between Santa Fe Pomeroy and Government. There are 38 companies, including many of the well known and established names in oilfield equipment, such as Reading and Bates, Halliburton, Standrill, Grant Oil Tool, using this 44 acre former Royal Navy base on the eastern coast of the island. An average of 100 supply boats a month call at the base.

2 Jurong Marine Base is operated by the Jurong Town Corporation on a 28-acre site in the industrial area west of Singapore City. Here 40 exploration, service and supply companies use the 164,000 sq. ft. of warehouse space and 11 acres of open storage space to provision the 100 or so supply boats calling each month.

3 The Port of Singapore Offshore Supply Terminal is situated within the Port area adjacent to the Telok Ayer Basin, the container port and the downtown business area of the city. PSA warehouse and labour facilities are available 24 hours a day and there is 7½ acres of hardstand for storing casings and other bulky equipment. Only six to eight rig supply vessels use this base a month as the bulk of the tonnage shipped through the Terminal is by conventional coaster supplying the land-based operations in Sumatra.

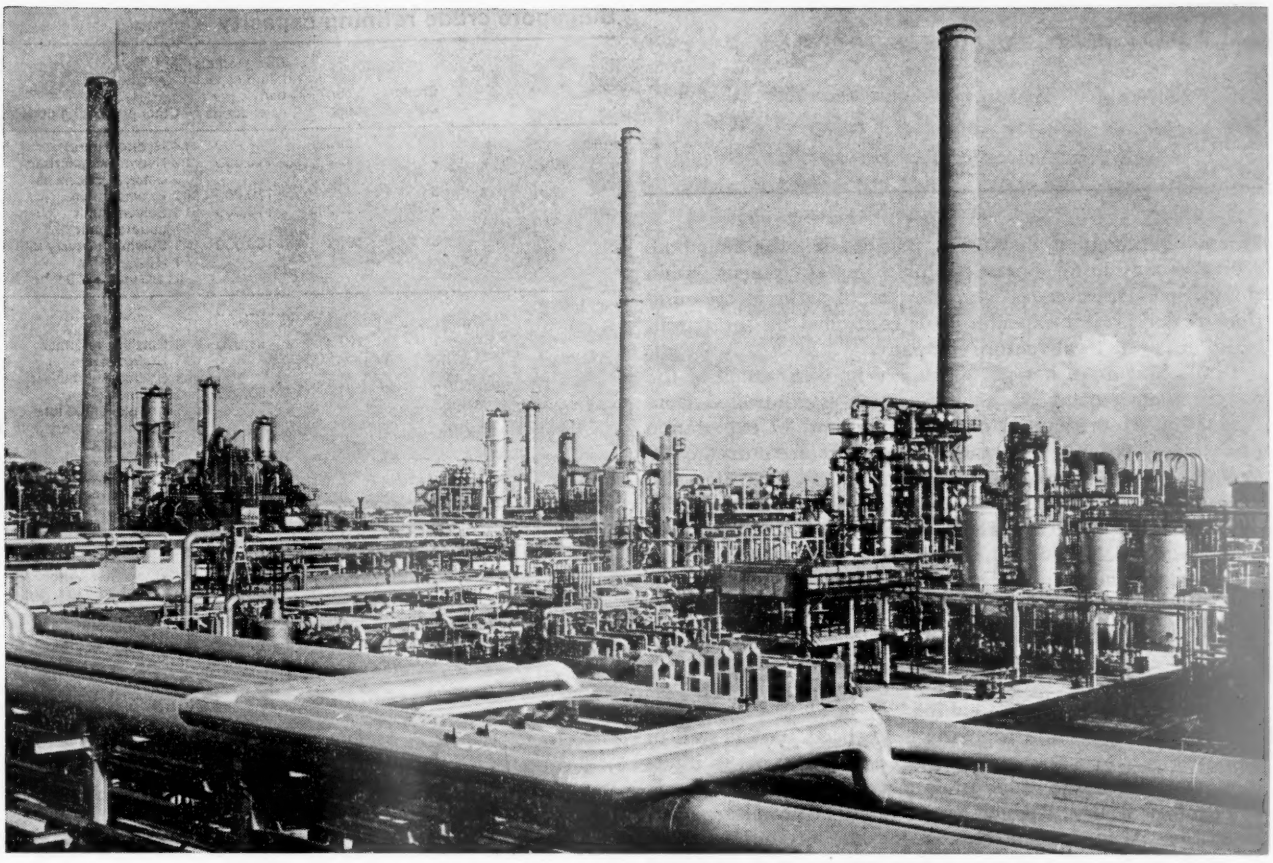
All these bases have full facilities for bulk storage of water, fuel, muds, cements, etc. and bonded-warehouse space, in addition to office accommodation for the companies using them.

By far the majority of the supply boats using the local supply bases are operated by companies in Singapore: American, Dutch, German and Singaporean. Some, like Tidex (the local subsidiary of the Louisiana company), which runs a fleet of 18 boats, own and crew the vessels on contract, to the exploration companies operating in the offshore Indonesian, East Malaysian or Gulf of Thailand areas. Others, like Borneo Straits Offshore, while owning a few boats, operate oil company vessels under contract. With the expansion of the exploration industry in these regional waters, the rig/supply boat ratio has gone down and is likely to continue to decrease affording opportunities for new operators to enter the market.

Having a ready-made market right on its door-step, the Singapore ship building industry has not been slow to see the opportunities for meeting the demand for vessels engaged in offshore exploration and a number of yards are now producing relatively sophisticated supply vessels comparable in quality to those produced anywhere else in the world. Although there is little price advantage in buying such vessels in Singapore, completion times are very competitive. In fact, it is not unusual for shipyards to be held up in their building programme for want of the equipment such as steering gear and engines with which to fit out the vessels.

Small vessels such as tugs can be completed in Singapore yards in under three months and flat-top and supply barges even quicker. The demand for such vessels is likely to continue and there are worthwhile opportunities for suppliers of marine equipment to set up stock holding, spares and service facilities in Sinagpore.

In addition to the relatively straightforward ship-building



Singapore, the third largest refining centre in the world after Houston and Rotterdam has a refining capacity of over a million barrels per day and the Shell company's refinery at Pulau Bukom (Shell Island) accounts for more than half this total. Picture courtesy Shell Eastern Petroleum (Pte.) Ltd.

and ship-repairing facilities that have grown up in Singapore, the island has also become the scene of operations for the far more sophisticated business of building exploration rigs and production platforms for the offshore oil industry. Marathon Le Tourneau and Bethlehem Steel, for example, have set up local companies to fabricate rigs and other United States companies have taken the opportunity to make 'know how' or manufacture under licence agreements with local companies.

Thus Bethlehem Singapore (Pte.) Ltd. is manufacturing the United States parent company's range of jack-up drilling rigs; Far East-Levingston Shipbuilding Ltd. has just completed construction of a large 'Penrod 70' series semi-submersible rig; and Robin Shipyard (Pte.) Ltd. is constructing ETA design drilling rigs and has a licence to manufacture the Armco rig jacking system to market in the region. It is reported that there are currently more than 20 exploration rigs being built and on order with Singapore yards.

With the very strong United States influence in not only the construction industry but also the exploration operations it is not perhaps surprising that most of the ancillary equipment (which does not have solely oil industry applications) such as power units, generators, compressors, pumps, power winches, valves, flanges and pipework is United States sourced. This is because most rigs are 'owner fitted' and the rig operators specify such equipment as they are familiar with it. There are opportunities, however, for the sale of British equipment in this field, especially for those companies already supplying to the North Sea industry, providing sufficient attention is paid to marketing strategy, availability of stocks and spares and after sales service.

Singapore has no oilfields, off or on shore, but it has, mainly due to its geographical location, become a large and important centre of oil refining, rating as the third largest in the world after Houston and Rotterdam. With a crude distilling capacity in excess of 1 million barrels per calendar day, petroleum refining accounts for a large proportion of the value of the country's manufacturing output, while employing little over 1 per cent of the manufacturing work force. In 1973 petroleum refining was the country's largest individual industry (in terms of product value) accounting for 25.6 per cent of the value output of the manufacturing sector.

There are five companies with refineries in Singapore – Shell, BP, Mobil, Esso and Singapore Petroleum – and the table on page 334 gives a breakdown of Singapore's crude refining capacity. The current throughput of crude oil is estimated to be in the region of 600,000 barrels per day although part of this under-utilisation is a consequence of the 'world situation' in relation to crude supplies, of course. With a population of approximately 2.25 million, Singapore represents only a fraction of the market for the petroleum products of the refineries. They are thus strategic links in the global refining and marketing chains of the companies, producing marine and aviation bunkering for Singapore and other refined products for the regional market from Malaysia, embracing Thailand and Indonesia and stretching as far as Australia and Japan – where most of the petro-chemical feedstocks go.

The construction of more than half of the industry's refining capacity was completed during 1973 and, there being an excess in refining capacity over current demand/output, it is unlikely there will be any major refinery expansion projects started in the next three to five years in Singapore. But with increasing demand by pollution-conscious customer states for

low sulphur content fuels, it is possible that the Singapore refineries may instal more de-sulphurising equipment within this period. However, as with most multi-national organisations major project expenditure is controlled by the parent rather than the local venture company.

While Singapore has no oilfields of its own, much of the overall management of the exploration is controlled from Singapore. More than 30 oil companies and 17 exploration companies have offices on the island. There are currently 30 exploration rigs operating in the region's waters and the industry sees the next five years as being a period of increasing activity during which it is estimated that US$10 billion will be spent on the exploration effort. Finding funds to finance exploration projects is, of course, a job calling for sophisticated banking techniques and Singapore has developed as a regional money market with such (imported) skills of money management able to meet the demands made upon it for financing on both a project investment basis and 'off balance sheet' downstream lending.

A typical exploration company has a headquarters staff in Singapore with resident geologists and geophysicists to interpret and evaluate the technical data received from the seismic and geological surveys which have been carried out by specialist companies under sub-contract. It will usually have, for example, in the case of exploration activity in the Gulf of Thailand concessions, a resident development/exploration

Singapore crude refining capacity

Company	Crude distiller	Year built	Designed distilling capacity barrels per calendar day	Other processing units
Shell	1	1960	48,000	4 Hydrotreaters
	2	1967	110,000	2 Hydrodesulphurisers 2 Catalytic reformers
	3	1970	110,000	2 Bitumen units
	4	1972	110,000	1 Solvents unit 1 Lube-oil unit
	5	1973	180,000	1 Sulphur recovery unit 1 Hydrotreater 3 LPG units: 200 tons/day
Sub-total			558,000	
Esso	1	1970	81,000	1 Catalytic reformer 1 Hydrotreater 1 Hydrodesulphuriser
	2	1973	150,000	1 Bitumen plant 1 LPG plant: 100 tons/day 1 Sulphur recovery unit 1 Lube-oil unit
Sub-total			231,000	
Mobil	1	1962	30,000	2 Hydrotreaters 1 Catalytic reformer 1 Solvents unit
	2	1973	150,000	2 Sulphur recovery units LPG plant: 180 tons/day 1 Hydrogen plant 1 Sulphur plant
Sub-total			180,000	
British Petroleum	1	1962	27,000*	LPG plant: 30 tons/day
Sub-total			27,000	
Singapore Petroleum Co.	1	1973	70,000	1 Sulphur recovery unit 1 Hydrotreater 1 Hydrodesulphuriser LPG plant: 100 tons/day
Sub-total			70,000	
Grand total			1,066,000	

* Barrels per stream day.

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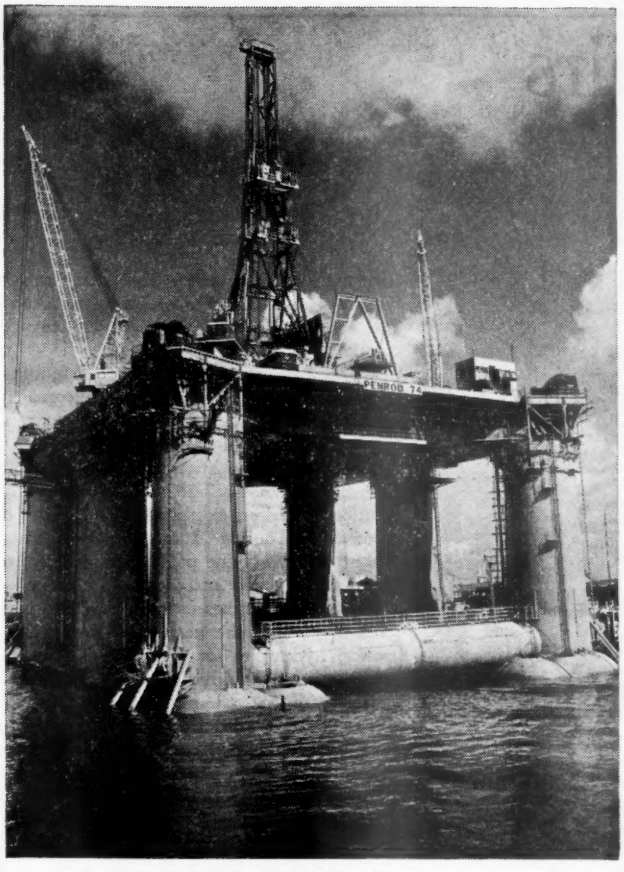


Penrod 74 is the latest and most sophisticated oil-rig to have been built in Singapore by Far East-Levingston Shipbuilding Ltd. for the Penrod Drilling Co. of Texas. Costing some £18 million at today's prices, this semi-submersible exploration rig incorporates 11,000 tons of steel, is capable of working in 1,000 ft. of water and has a drilling capacity in excess of 30,000 ft. Picture courtesy Far East-Levingston Shipbuilding Ltd.

company representative in Bangkok and a 'forward' base on the coast probably at Songhkhla with a helicopter (sub-contracted or charter) and a further contract with a supply-boat company to provide boats for supplying the equipment required on the exploration rig with yet a further contract with a procurement company based at Loyang or Jurong in Singapore.

The oilfield equipment market

New sellers face a definite problem when trying to break into any new market but the market for oil exploration equipment is undoubtedly one of the hardest. The majority of exploration companies are American, used to American equipment from strings to scissors, bits to baked beans, and in many ways the most conservative of buyers. These buyers tend to order what is familiar to them in terms of their previous experience and due to the almost overwhelming dominance of the United States in this industry normally specify United States sourced equipment as it will invariably be manufactured to API specifications and 'known'. This latter fact is important when considering marketing strategy as it is equally true for the specialised equipment such as rock bits, wellheads, wellhead and pipeline valves, wireline tools, as it is for pumps, compressors, generators, instruments, etc. which do not have a limited application to oilfield use.

Each drilling is the subject of a separate contract between oil company and drilling operator and, while many companies have their own regular supplier(s), it is not unknown for them to shop around. However, most buyers of either goods or services look at quality, service and price in that order. The main criterion is usually delivery. When an offshore drilling rig costs in the region of US$30,000 per day to run, many an exploration outfit will be willing to spend US$25,000 to have specialised equipment flown in from the USA to keep the rig operating and 'save' $5,000. Thus, with little evident price competition, business is usually placed with the supply companies that can offer efficient products; with immediate delivery and good spares and service back-up.

For any company intending to get into this market it is essential to establish a stock-holding, spares and service centre in the region. It is possible to make the right arrangements with a local company to act as agent and not absolutely essential to have one's own locally registered operating company to carry out the local stocking facility (although the majority of United States equipment companies are here on the ground) but it is considered essential to have company service engineers on the spot to follow up sales and service inquiries. The market is difficult to break into and thus results are a medium term rather than a short term prospect.

The best opportunities in the exploration market are for equipment that does not have a sole application to the oil industry – equipment which is already of proven value, quality and efficiency including pumps, generators, communications equipment, turbines, etc. Other opportunities exist in casings (in general short supply) and the specialised down-hole products such as muds and cements; in supply operations such as boats and logistics; and specialised professional services such as diving.

There are undoubted opportunities existing for the supply of oilfield and gas equipment and services to Indonesia. However, the Indonesian Government has decided to encourage service, supply and operating companies to have a 'real' presence in Indonesia and it is essential to have a good indigenous agent, if not a locally-established operation there. Little business can be done with buyers in Indonesian oil world without visiting the country and establishing contact with Pertamina, the state oil corporation and the foreign companies operating there. One estimate for the amount to be spent over the next five years on equipment and engineering for LNG plants alone in Indonesia is US$3 billion. The question of making contacts in the countries of the region cannot be emphasised enough as, although most of the oil companies maintain regional offices in Singapore and in fact many sales negotiations may be concluded there, local ventures are and will become more of a self contained national operation. In Malaysia contact with Petronas the Government corporation set up with sole rights for petroleum exploration and exploitation will be essential.

Further information concerning the development of the petroleum industry in the countries of South East Asia can be obtained from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Export House, London EC4.

A library for exporters

Foreign trade statistics and other economic statistics from almost every country in the world are available for reference in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. A modern well-equipped library of over 85,000 volumes, it has a reading room for visitors and provides a document-copying service. There are trade directories covering 150 countries, and an expanding collection of trade catalogues of overseas manufacturers. The library opens from 9 to 5.30, Mondays to Fridays (Tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368 or Telex No. 886143).

Exhibitions and Fairs

A first-time joint venture at Lille sub-contract show

From T. A. Quinn, British Consulate-General, Lille: The European Sub-Contracting Exhibition, claims to be unique, at least in Europe, in providing a marketplace to enable sub-contracting firms in the engineering industry, which work exclusively to customers' drawings and specifications, to promote their particular expertise and special, often highly advanced, techniques. Now in its 4th year, Midest '74 was held in Lille in Northern France. For the first time there was an official British joint venture participation with 13 exhibitors under the sponsorship of the Engineering Industries Association and supported by BOTB (*some British stands pictured above*).

Difficult though the art of sub-contracting is to put over at a trade fair and difficult though it is to gain customer confidence, the British participants rose nobly to the occasion in putting on an imaginative and wide-ranging display from simple presswork to highly complex machined parts for nuclear reactors and from high volume components to one-off prototypes and special tools.

During the five-day show nearly 10,000 buyers, production engineers and designers visited Midest and the British stand attracted its fair share of attention. Not long after the opening, Walter Gold and Sons Ltd., taking part in its first ever exhibition, had received two sets of drawings on which to quote.

While attendance was at times not as good as had been hoped due to the counter-attraction of the Paris Motor Show, the quality of the visitors was such that all exhibitors took away with them potentially valuable inquiries and contacts for future business.

And these contacts were by no means restricted to the French market. The experience of one company, G. W. Martin and Co. Ltd. of Eastleigh, is perhaps typical of the European nature of this exhibition. Among the inquiries it obtained was one from Belgium for 300,000 parts for window fittings per month for three years and one from Holland for control fittings from a major domestic gas appliance manufacturer. The company also made a very useful contact with a French pneumatic equipment manufacturer – an industry in which it specialises – and has high hopes that it will lead to substantial business.

Another company, Cranford Manufacturing Co. Ltd. of Smethwick, collected an inquiry from the UK-based European purchasing officer of a big multi-national corporation, in addition to inquiries from France and Spain. The reactor flame-tube mentioned earlier, exhibited on the stand of Associated Tooling Industries of Luton, caught the eye of the purchasing director of Jeumont Schneider and led to an inquiry for fuel rod control tubes estimated to be worth £1 million over the next three years. Sub-presses, hydraulics for earth-moving equipment, special welding arms for the automobile industry all brought valuable inquiries, though with this type of exhibition the positive financial results will take some time to establish.

In addition to representatives of the Engineering Industries Association and of the British Consulate-General in Lille, the stand was manned by Gerry Gratten and Colin Parker of the European Components Service of the Department of Trade whose extensive contacts with European industry proved a great help to exhibitors. Further impact was given to the British effort by Walter Waller, marketing director of the Lucas Group, who gave a well-attended talk on how metrication in the UK can open up new markets for sub-contracting firms.

The majority of the British firms who participated this year have already indicated that they will be at next year's event, to be held in Nantes, 20-24 October.

Business booked at Milan furniture forum

From W. P. Hartshorne, Vice Consul (Commercial), Milan: Nine British firms, sponsored by the British Furniture Manufacturers Export Club, took part in a joint venture at the International Furniture Exhibition, Milan, 20-25 September. This was the 5th International and the 14th National edition of the fair and it was officially opened this year by Italian Minister of Health Colombo.

Italy has a highly-specialised and well-developed furniture industry – production in 1973 being estimated at £618 million – and is a net exporter of furniture. Italy's contemporary furniture enjoys a high reputation and Italian design has conquered world markets.

It was, therefore, against this background of local competition and in the context of the present difficult economic situation in Italy, including the 50 per cent import deposit scheme, that the British joint venture took place. That the official British participation was an undoubted success was all the more encouraging for this reason and the British exporters are to be congratulated on some impressive exhibits.

Business done by the British firms during the six days of the fair amounted to £135,000 and future business, over the next six months, arising out of their participation is estimated at £400,000. Three of the five firms seeking local agents found them in the course of the exhibition and agency inquiries for the other two are going forward.

All-in-all, therefore, this was a successful joint venture and one which promises to be a regular feature in our annual programme of official participation in trade fairs in Italy.

British exhibitors attract attention in Helsinki

From Gitta Selin, Commercial Officer, British Embassy, Helsinki: Britain was once again represented at the second Helsinki International Trade Fair, Consumer Goods, 13-22 September. It was estimated that some 152,000 people visited the fair. About 50,000 of these were listed as buyers.

Of about 40 British companies represented at the fair, 11 took part in a joint venture sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the British Overseas Trade Board, on a stand in hall C, where most of the national pavilions were situated. The stand attracted considerable interest.

The British joint venture exhibition covered a wide range and the companies showing were George Ballantine and Sons, Columbus Dixon Ltd., Dimplex Ltd., Eaton and Wrighton Ltd., Hoover Ltd., Keswick (Fancy Goods) Ltd., Letraset Consumer Products Ltd., Metlex Industries Ltd., Pye Ltd., Thorn Domestic Appliances (Export) Ltd., Valor Heating Ltd.

On the opening day of the fair, British Ambassador T. A. K. Elliott, CMG, accompanied by Commercial Counsellor M. S. Berthoud, visited the joint venture stand. All other Commercial Officers visited the fair to advise or to assist participants.

Those who were newcomers to the Finnish market were able to appoint agents and introduce their products to the Finnish public. Pye Ltd. took the opportunity to announce the appointment of a Finnish distributor and to introduce new colour TV sets and audio equipment and radios. Most of the firms already established on the market said that interesting inquiries had been received and that participation in the fair would prove beneficial in the long run.

The emphasis of the fair was on TV, radio and audio equipment, although foodstuffs were also strongly featured both on agents' stands and on the Dutch, French, West German and Italian national stands. The High Wycombe firm of Schwartz Spices exhibited for the first time on its agent's stand and attracted a great deal of attention both from the public and the press.

At the opening ceremony, Finnish Minister for Trade Jermu Laine emphasised that the reduction of duties under the agreement with both the EEC and the Comecon countries will lead to increased competition in the Finnish market. Indeed there is no lack of competition already. Products from 28 countries and 668 manufacturers were on show at nearly 200 stands.

In addition to the British joint venture, there were 17 other national stands, the countries including France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, China, North Korea, India, Pakistan and Hong Kong. Of these, the last five exhibited for the first time and China had the largest stand space.

This exhibition was the last general fair to be held in the Messuhalli. At the end of this year the new exhibition halls, situated just north of the present grounds, will be completed. The next International Trade Fair will be devoted to capital goods and held 9-13 September 1975.

Growing interest in fashion footwear noted at Dusseldorf sample display

From H. C. von Massenbach, British Consulate-General, Dusseldorf: Visiting foreign buyers at the 38th GDS, European Footwear Sample Display at Dusseldorf, 21-23 September, brought what little sunshine there was for the 338 exhibitors showing spring and summer collections. It was the Scandinavian, Dutch and Belgian buyers, the Austrians and Swiss, not to overlook the increasing presence of buyers from Britain, who got down to serious business with the will to buy. The general restraint, on the other hand, of the German trade buyers left most of the exhibitors, in particular German producers, with the feeling that spring/summer 1975 was still a long way off and that many a company might have to face a severe winter – which some might not survive.

With the German footwear industry together with the trade already on the defensive in the face of exploding costs, the effects of inflation, and the marked downward trend in consumer demand, both the number of exhibiting firms and the number of visiting buyers (22,000) were down, respectively, by 9 per cent and 12 per cent when compared with the attendance figures at last year's September event.

There were no unhappy faces, however, on the stands of the British exhibitors. Once again, the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation had sponsored, in co-operation with BOTB, a group exhibit under the joint venture scheme, comprising 15 footwear producers. All had shown at Dusseldorf before and, indeed, companies such as Pell of Norwich Ltd., Shorter and Armes, A. Barker and Sons Ltd. and Frank Wright Shoes Ltd. were seen here again as old-timers.

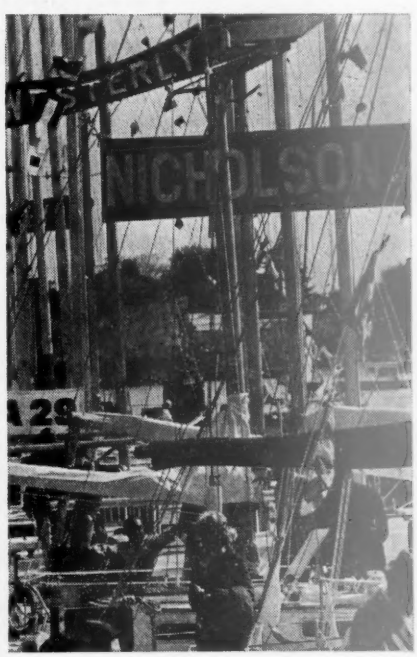
The British firms presented impressive collections of men's, women's and children's footwear to appeal to all sectors of the trade and consumer markets. It was all there – high quality fashion dress shoes, classical quality leather footwear, fashion day shoes and boots, sports and leisure footwear – and the reaction of the visiting buyers was very positive. The firms made contact with old and potential customers, many from Scandinavia, Austria, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland and it was the buyers from these countries which placed most of the orders booked.

Particularly noticeable was the growing interest of German buyers in the fashion footwear on offer by British firms. While these fashion footwear producers were very satisfied with the response of the German buyers, those specialising in classical footwear were less encouraged.

It was to be expected that prices would highlight discussions between producers and the trade. It was not without some satisfaction therefore that many UK producers were able successfully to convince buyers of their competitiveness.

Even though Europe's footwear producers did manage to demonstrate ingenuity in swallowing much of the recent cost explosion on the raw materials and production front, it was clear that neither the trade nor the industry had found an answer to the problem of stimulating demand and keeping the market for footwear buoyant against a background of inflation. The 39th GDS will be held in Dusseldorf, 22-24 March 1975.

British vessels afloat at the United States Sailboat Show, Annapolis, last month. Eighteen United Kingdom companies, sponsored by the Ship and Boat Builders National Federation and supported by British Overseas Trade Board, participated in a joint venture at this exhibition.



Singapore President at medical congress

From F. S. Fielding, Counsellor (Commercial), British High Commission, Singapore: British exhibitors dominated the international exhibition of anaesthetic and medical equipment and drugs mounted as part of the Fourth Asian and Australasian Congress of Anaesthesiologists in the large foyer at the Conference Hall in Singapore. Out of the 29 companies exhibiting, nine were British companies in a joint venture between the British Hospitals Export Council and British Overseas Trade Board. British exhibitors took 1,300 sq. ft. of the 2,000 sq. ft. available.

The most striking exhibit was undoubtedly that of British Oxygen Co. Operating for the first time at an overseas exhibition as Medishield, it took the whole upper concourse with a layout which gave maximum exposure. The other British companies exhibiting were: ICI, Kent Cambridge, Portex, Blease Medical Equipment, Evans Electroselenium, Medical and Industrial Equipment, H. G. East and Penlon. Products exhibited covered a wide range from a variety of modern equipment down to drugs.

The President of the Republic (*pictured examining equipment on a British stand*) opened the congress and also gave a reception for delegates and exhibitors. A number of distinguished anaesthesiologists from the United Kingdom attended the congress, together with two representatives from the Department of Health and Social Security. The congress attracted over 700 medical personnel from Japan, Australia, United States and the South-East Asia region, together with senior staff of Singapore hospitals, Government and the medical profession.

The exhibitors reported keen interest among the delegates and the stands were consistently well attended. A great deal of interest was also evinced by local medical administrators and hospital staff including the medical branch of the armed forces. All exhibitors expressed themselves very satisfied with the number of orders and serious inquiries received. They were also glad of the opportunity to meet old acquaintances and to extend contacts throughout the region.

The exhibition, 22-26 September, emphasised the major role of British industry in supplying high-quality medical equipment worldwide.

Position consolidated in marine market

From C. J. Rawlinson, British Consulate-General, Hamburg: The British marine equipment industry was well represented at the biennial International Ship, Machine and Marine Technology Exhibition, Hamburg, 24-28 September, and at which over 400 exhibitors from 18 countries participated.

Sixteen British firms, displaying a wide range of marine equipment from deck machinery and engine-room auxiliaries to sophisticated navigation aids and automatic monitoring equipment, took part in a joint venture organised by the British Marine Equipment Council and the BOTB. Details of the products and services of over 150 British marine equipment suppliers were also available from the BMEC information stand. In addition to the joint venture exhibitors, at least 30 other British firms were exhibiting either independently on their own stands or on the stands of local representatives.

There were 19,500 visitors to the exhibition from 41 countries. This represented an increase of over 12 per cent on the 1972 attendance figures. Other joint venture stands were organised by the Polish, Danish and Norwegian marine industries.

General satisfaction

There were fewer foreign visitors reported at the exhibition this year but, against a background of Federal Republic shipyards with estimated orders on hand of 8,000,000 dwt worth over £2,000 million and some yards booked as far ahead as 1978, the British exhibitors expressed general satisfaction at the level and quality of inquiries received, not only from the Federal Republic but from other European countries, in particular from Scandinavia. As a result, British exhibitors already represented locally were able to consolidate their position in the market, while those paying their first visit to the Federal Republic were able to gain worthwhile knowledge of the market and make useful initial contacts.

Lima: focus on future at world mining show

The 8th World Mining Congress is currently taking place in Lima, Peru. Three of the speakers are from the National Coal Board. The central theme of this year's congress, 'Prognosis of the Development of Mining up to the Year 2000', deals with topics such as the present world situation of mineral deposits, reserves, distribution and demand, methods for forecasting raw material resources, methods and terminology of forecasting the raw material in the world in the year 2000.

The interest of the congress is enhanced by the World Mining Fair, Tecnomin '74 – an exhibition of mining technology at which the British Overseas Trade Board is supporting a joint venture of 21 United Kingdom firms. Exhibits include coal face machinery, mineral processing equipment, diamond core drills, an underground drilling rig, fork lift trucks, conveyor belts, industrial hose, fastening equipment, mine fans and ancillary equipment, industrial air and water cooled diesel engines.

Supported by BOTB, the Association of British Mining Equipment Exporters has an information stand presenting a display of photographs supplied by seven member companies, while Warren Spring Laboratory has a joint stand with two British agencies offering technical and consultancy services in the industry.

The main purpose of Tecnomin '74 is to give specialists attending the World Mining Congress an opportunity to see the most recent progress in systems and methods of application of the latest mining machinery and equipment.

International trade fair for Barcelona next year

The 43rd Barcelona International Trade Fair will be held 3-12 June next year in five sections.

These are: Furniture, lighting and allied items; Metalmecanica, which includes machine-tools, machinery for rubber and plastics and welding; Building Environment, offering building materials and machinery, as well as engineering for the environmental control; Automat, devoted to the industrial automation, with electrotechnics, electronics, hydraulics, pneumatics and mechanical components; Office equipment/data processing.

Design and craft admired in Lyons

From B. Page, British Consulate-General, Lyons: Meuropam and Promeuropam are two exhibitions in one. Held in Lyons annually since 1960, Meuropam, the Marché Européen de l'Ameublement is a furniture exhibition, to which furnishings and accessories were added in 1962 under the title Pro-Meuropam or Marché International des Fournitures Professionnelles pour l'Ameublement. Between them, the two exhibitions – 5-8 October – cover some 58,000 sq. m. in part of the Lyons Fair premises. Admission is restricted to trade and professional categories only.

This year there were 802 exhibitors of whom 236 were from outside France; 18 foreign countries were represented; there were 22,000 visitors from 28 countries. It is noteworthy that these exhibition statistics reflect an increase each year on the previous year's figures.

The British participation in Meuropam occupied three complete galleries, with 32 furniture manufacturers taking part in the joint venture sponsored by the British Furniture Manufacturers' Association and supported by BOTB.

The lay-out of the British galleries, designed by Department of Trade staff, was highly appreciated by exhibitors and visitors alike.

British manufacturers are particularly known in France for their reproduction furniture: the elegant design and quality workmanship is widely admired. Reproduction dining room suites and bookcases were in evidence on most of the British stands, together with comfortable armchairs upholstered in leather and fabrics. Some outstanding items were made of yew, a wood which is very little employed in France, and the distinctive honey-coloured hue attracted much attention. More modern lines were represented by a range of small bars which sell well on the French market, telephone seats which are now well established, and, new to Lyons this year, a range of low-priced moulded coffee tables and attractive bedroom furniture.

It is significant that the majority of the British firms taking part were not newcomers to the Lyons exhibition. These regular exhibitors at Meuropam are well aware of the solid market potential for their products in this area. The newcomers among the British exhibitors were all very pleased with the contacts they established and several were able to appoint agents.

In spite of prevailing economic conditions and, in particular, credit control which has affected furniture sales throughout France, most of the British exhibitors reported a satisfactory exhibition from the business point of view. Up to £40,000 worth of orders were taken by several firms. All the British exhibitors declared that they were encouraged by this year's Meuropam to continue exhibiting in France.

Horticulture orders gained at Karlsruhe

From R. J. Painter, British Consulate-General, Stuttgart: The 4th Trade Exhibition for Commercial Horticulture (Technik im Gartenbau), Karlsruhe, 27-30 September, a biennial event, covered double the area (8,816 sq. m. net) of the first event held in 1968 (4,310 sq. m. net) and attracted 211 exhibitors from nine foreign countries and over 14,500 visitors (predominately trade visitors) from European and other countries.

Lectures and symposia were held parallel to the event in the Congress Hall on the exhibition site on 27 and 28 September by horticultural and agricultural associations. A meeting of the EEC committee of the AIPH also took place. These events gave rise to a large proportion of technically-minded and interested visitors.

This year saw the first British joint venture stand – under the sponsorship of the Horticultural Trades Association, supported by the British Overseas Trade Board – which housed the largest foreign contingent, both in numbers and site space.

A total of 14 British companies were represented by the nine joint venture firms exhibiting on an open stand of natural wood construction, covered by a blue and white striped canvas roof. The stand design received praise from visitors and other exhibitors.

Plantpak Plastics Ltd., exhibiting horticultural planting trays and containers, received immediate orders amounting to £500 and orders pending confirmation to the extent of over £4,000, despite keen local competition. This was the only firm on the stand selling an essentially consumer product.

The other exhibitors – whose products fell in the essentially long-term sales field and which ranged from greenhouse heaters, greenhouses, power washers, trenchers, platform trailers, embankment grass cutters, mowers and sweepers, grinding machines to the hydra-stumper which demonstrated how effortlessly trees can be lifted out of the ground – received a far larger number of serious inquiries than expected and which could lead to orders later. Econ Engineering Ltd. commenced negotiations with Unimog for the incorporation of its equipment on this four-wheel drive vehicle widely used in Germany.

The British participants, who worked very closely as a team, claimed that the exhibition had provided them with an excellent introduction to the German market and that consultations with members of various associations and official bodies who visited the stand had given them invaluable information on safety and technical requirements and buying habits.

British food display in Paris

At the 6th Salon International d'Alimentation, Paris, 12-18 November, Britain is occuping the largest national stand on a site of 1,260 sq. m. Regular visitors will know that the event is one of the two most important food fairs in Europe, states the British Food Export Council, and attracts exhibitors and trade inquiries from all over the world.

Sponsored by the British Food Export Council under British Overseas Trade Board joint venture terms, the product ranges of some 48 UK companies are on display. The centrepiece is a 'British pub' operated by the Allied Breweries group. The traditional pub atmosphere is already available in parts of Paris and this latest operation will capitalise on a trend continually increasing in popularity.

Two other major features are the group stands of Imperial Foods Ltd. and Northern Ireland. Collectively, these exhibits cover a widening rage of British foods that are finding greater favour in France and throughout the world. Other British companies occupying individual stands are showing products as diverse as soup and Scotch whisky, and a number are exhibiting at this event for the first time.

London film show's international audience

Film 75—the 4th International Technology Conference and Exhibition to be organised by the British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society—is in an advanced state of planning and the indications are that it will be an even greater success than Film 73 which attracted over 1,000 engineers and technicians from some 35 countries.

Representatives of BKSTS fly to Toronto this month to promote FILM 75, at the 116th-SMPTE Conference. Several hundred American and Canadian executives will attend the London Conference next year. The whole of the convention and exhibition facilities of London's Royal Lancaster Hotel have been reserved by the society and all stand space has already been sold to 70 exhibitors in the motion picture, sound, television and audio visual equipment fields.

FILM 75, 23-27 June, will also provide a forum for the foremost men and women from the international film and tape communications industry. Papers by eminent speakers will be given covering the important developments in techniques which are taking place in throughout the world.

Missions and Tours

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea, Kim Jong Pil, greets G. C. Nichols, leader of the British industrial and banking mission (right). Looking on are (extreme left) British Ambassador J. C. Petersen and Chung Ju Jung, chairman of the Korean-British Business Promotion Committee and of Hyundai Industries Ltd.

Industrial and bank party visits Republic of Korea

An industrial and banking mission, sponsored by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry and supported by British Overseas Trade Board, visited the Republic of Korea, 13-23 October. Composed of 20 representatives from 16 leading British banks and industrial firms, the mission was led by G. C. Nichols OBE, DFC, chairman of Rotaprint Ltd. and of BOTB's Korean Trade Advisory Group.

Mr. Nichols reports: 'Although the London Chamber of Commerce mission to Korea had been heralded in advance as a major event in the development of Anglo-Korean business relations, even the most hardened exporters on the mission were taken aback by the exceptionally warm welcome we received from the Korean business and government alike. The constant theme of meeting after meeting was that Korea looked to the UK as a future major trading partner and wished to diversify the present pattern of its trade and investment to allow British firms to play a key role in the continued industrialisation of this rapidly growing economy.

'The highlight of the mission's visit was the reception for over an hour by His Excellency President Park Chung Hee at the Blue House on 22 October. In addition, members of the mission were received by Prime Minister Kim Jong Pil, by Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Nam Duck Woo and by Minister for Commerce and Industry Chang Yie Joon. It was made clear that the objectives of the mission—greater trade and investment between Britain and Korea—had the support of the highest levels of government and President Park expressed his personal concern that there should be a substantial increase in imports and investment from Britain.

'On 15 October, the 20 mission members attended the first joint meeting of the Korean-British Business Promotion Committee in Seoul and the United Kingdom/Korea Economic Cooperation Group in London to discuss ways of consolidating ties between Korea and Britain. This first joint meeting was chaired by Chung Ju Yung, chairman of the Korean-British Business Promotion Committee and of the important Hyundai group of industrial companies. After the meeting a joint statement was issued in which both sides agreed to exert the utmost effort to expand the volume of bilateral trade and to pursue joint studies with a view to identifying and exploring the most promising areas of capital and technological co-operation. The United Kingdom side agreed to dispatch further missions over the next year to examine in more detail ways in which British industry could further contribute to Korea's economic development. There will be a Second Joint Conference of the Committees in London during 1975.

'In addition to attending briefings at the Economic Planning Board and at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the mission called on the presidents of the Federation of Korean Industries, of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry and of the Korean Traders Association. The Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry sponsored two lectures by members of our mission on 16 October which attracted large audiences. Mr. Godwin of Lazard Brothers gave a talk on "The British Capital Market" and Mr. Friedman of Rubery Owen gave another on "Trade with Eastern Europe".

'Every assistance was given to individual members of the mission to meet and discuss business with their Korean counterparts and, without exception, they were overwhelmed at the opportunities presented by the favourable business attitude of the Koreans. Represented on the mission were such internationally known companies as British Oxygen, GEC, ICI, Rolls-Royce, Vickers, W. S. Atkins, Westinghouse Brake and Signal, Kleinwort Benson. Some are now pursuing the possibilities of investment in Korea; others, like Spicers, will establish a branch office in Seoul to develop trade, while yet others like Ernest Scragg, Alfred Herbert and Dowty-Meco saw exciting possibilities for the sale of their machinery.

'A number of mission members were particularly interested in Korea's plans to further develop her steel making capacity through the construction of a second integrated steel mill and to further extend the existing steel mill at Pohang. M. F. Dowding of Davy Ashmore the chairman of the British Metallurgical Plant Federation, was among mission members who attended discussions and briefings with representatives of the Korean steel industry. It is planned that Mr. Dowding should return to Korea in early 1975 as leader of a European steelworks plant manufacturers mission.

'Between 17-20 October, 11 mission members left for a three-day industrial tour of the south-eastern part of the peninsular organised by British Honorary Vice-Consul in Busan, S. E. Wang.

'The great success of this, the largest trade mission ever to visit the Republic of Korea from Britain, was in large measure the result of the efficiency and efforts made by the British Ambassador in Seoul and his excellent Commercial Department.

'It is impossible to be anything but impressed by the speed with which the Korean economy is being industrialised and by the diligence and hard work which has gone into making this one of the fastest growing markets in the world. Already in the first eight months of this year, British exports to Korea have surpassed the total for 1973 and, on the evidence of the warmth of the reception for our mission and the opportunities for business which we saw open to us, it should not be very far into 1975 before this year's total is again exceeded.'

Export Business

Surgery instrument washer for Israel

A. Johnson & Co. (London) Ltd. has received an order for an automatic surgical instrument washer valued at almost £6,000 from Israel.

The washer, a Johnson Mark VIII, is for the Haddassa Hospital in Jerusalem and will be the second machine supplied to Israel.

The Mark VIII is one of the world's most advanced type of automatic surgical instrument washers, states Johnson. It combines five cleansing and decontamination operations into a single cycle. These comprise a preliminary power wash, ultra-sonic detergent search, final power wash, hot water rinse and decontamination and hot air drying. Every stage is automatically controlled and, after loading, instruments need no handling.

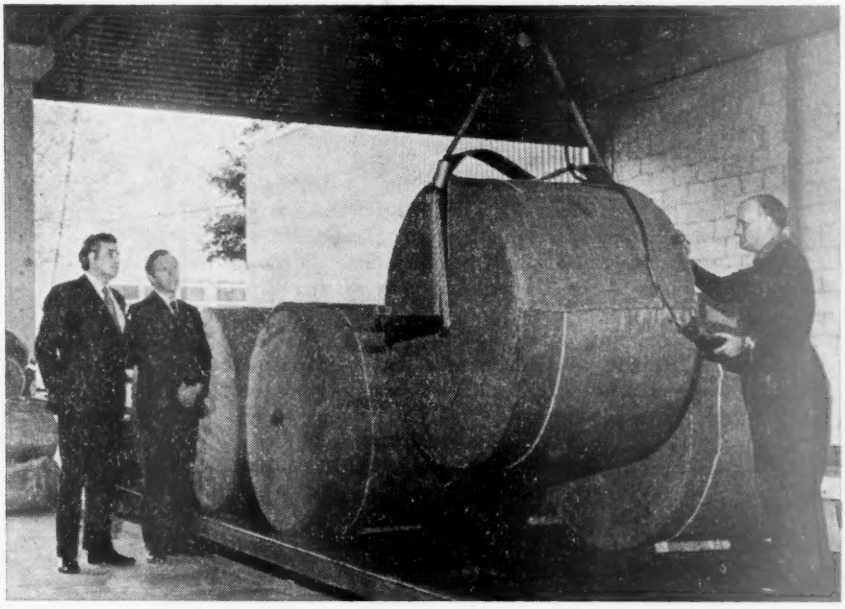
The first basket of instruments is processed in 25 minutes, with subsequent baskets cleared at three minuted intervals. This means that in one seven-hour day of operation.. 126 sets of instruments comprising some 4,283 items can be proceessed.

Stanley Coaten, instrument processing manager at Johnson's Wokingham factory, said: 'Cleaning surgical instruments for hospital theatres is quite an operation in itself. A surgeon may use anything up to 100 instruments during a major operation and, in modern hospitals with 10 theatres in constant use, it is quite common for six major operations and about 80 minor operations to be carried out daily. In terms of instruments, it means that a single hospital can require more than 4,000 every day. We have developed the Mark VIII specifically to meet this need.

Since it was introduced three years ago, machines worth a quarter of a million pounds have been made at the Wokingham factory for sale in Britain and abroad. Abroad, machines have been sold to Germany, Nigeria, New Zealand, Israel, South Africa and Zambia.

Korean motor industry

The reference in the 31 October edition of *Trade and Industry* to the manufacture of Japanese cars in the Republic of Korea was incorrect. The Hyundai Motor Co. is producing its own model using a Japanese engine. Most of the other components such as the brakes, steering, clutches and instruments are British. Hyundai will eventually manufacture the Japanese engine under licence in Korea.



W. Turnbull, general works manager of J. H. Fenner and Co. Ltd. (left) and divisional director of Fenner International J. Davis watch the first ever consignment of Fenaplast conveyor belting destined for the People's Republic of China being loaded in the company's Hull factory. This first consignment of an eventual 10,240 metres of Fenaplast forms part of a contract awarded to Dowty Meco of Worcester, manufacturer of the conveyor systems ordered by the China National Technical Import Corporation.

Dunlop in floating hose order for proposed new oil pipeline

A contract worth over £2.25 million for the supply of floating oil hose for the tanker terminals of the proposed Sumed oil pipeline from the Gulf of Suez to the Mediterranean has been won by the Oil and Marine Division of Dunlop Ltd. jointly with Industrie Pirelli SpA. The contract, part of a total scheme worth about £170 million put forward by an Italian consortium, was signed on behalf of Dunlop by D. Graham, divisional manager, and for Pirelli by A. Lorenzelli.

The Sumed scheme involves a pipeline some 200 miles long from Ain-Sokna – 37 miles south of Suez City on the Gulf of Suez – to a point on the Mediterranean coast about 18 miles west of Alexandria. 300,000 ton supertankers will discharge via Dunlop Selflote and Pirelli integral floating hose into a tank farm at the southern end of the pipeline and the oil will then be pumped through the line to the northern terminal for reloading – again via Dunlop and Pirelli hose – into smaller tankers for shipment to Northern Mediterranean and other European parts. The transfer of oil in this way across the Suez isthmus, states Dunlop, is expected to show considerable economies in cost and time over the alternatives of supertanker operation around the Cape of Good Hope or the use of smaller tankers through the Suez Canal when reopened.

A key factor in the Sumed project is the discharge and loading of tankers from offshore single point mooring buoys of which there will be three in the Gulf of Suez and five at the northern terminal. Tankers moor to these mono-buoys anchored to the sea bed and discharge to or load from them through the floating hose. The buoys themselves are connected to shore installations by underwater steel pipeline and submarine hoses.

Dunlop's Selflote floating hose is manufactured at the oil and marine divisions Grimsby factory in 40 ft. lenghts with internal diameters of up to 36 in. The patented construction employs layers of unicellular expanded rubber round the oil pipe itself, covered by a tough synthetic rubber cover. Being unicellular, the flotation medium does not flood if damaged and water penetration is limited to the area of injury.

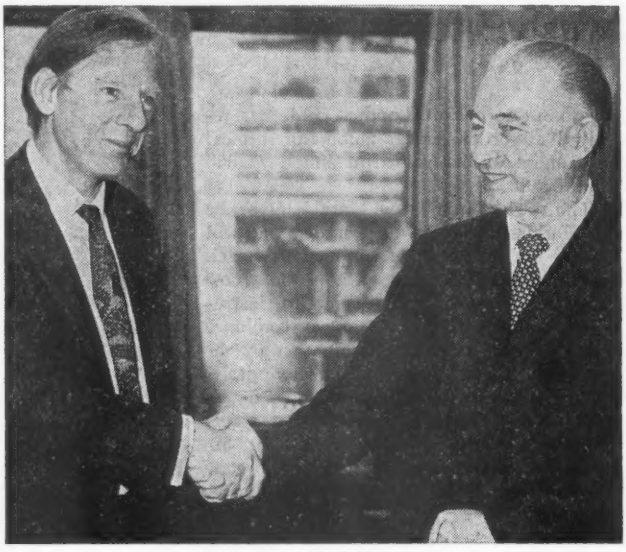
Trade Information

Hungarian Minister for Foreign Trade visits London

Dr. Biró, the Hungarian Minister for Foreign Trade, visited London during the week beginning 4 November as the guest of Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade. This was the first visit of a full Hungarian trade minister for many years and came at a time when Anglo/Hungarian trade has reached record levels. This year two-way trade may be double the 1972 level.

During his calls on Mr. Shore and Eric Deakins, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, Dr. Biró commented on the significant and welcome diversification of Hungarian exports to the United Kingdom so that British imports of Hungarian manufactured goods now exceed the traditional imports of agricultural goods.

Dr. Biró emphasised during his visit the increasing role played by industrial co-operation in Hungary's trade with the West and pointed to the good opportunities for co-operation between British and Hungarian enterprises under the next (1976-80) five-year plan. Details have yet to be published, but it is clear that the plan will involve a substantial investment in energy as well as the modernisation of some established industries (eg the chemical industry). During an address to the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr. Biró explained that potential opportunities would become clearer when full details of the plan had been drawn up.



Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade (left), welcomes Jozsef Biró, Hungarian Minister for Foreign Trade.

Anglo-Hungarian trade

£ million

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 (Jan.-Sept. inc.)
UK exports (fob) including re-export	19.0	20.8	22.9	26.5	33.1
UK imports (cif)	10.6	9.4	11.8	16.8	17.9

ECGD news

☐ Turkey: £4m loan for machine tools

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £4 million loan which Barclays Bank has made available to Hema Disli Sanayi ve Ticaret AS, Turkey. The loan will enable £5 million worth of contracts to be placed in the UK for machine tools and equipment for a new factory which will produce gear boxes and transmission units.

UK suppliers will receive 80 per cent of the contract price from the loan; the remaining 20 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources. To qualify under the terms of the loan, contracts must be placed by 31 October 1975. Repayment of the loan will be over a period of five years.

☐ Philippines: secondhand BAC1-11

A £1.6 million loan which Lloyds Bank has made available to Philippine Airlines towards the purchase of a secondhand BAC1-11 has been backed by the ECGD. The aircraft is undergoing conversion to Philippine Airlines requirements at BAC Commercial Aircraft Division at Bournemouth. Repayment of the loan will be over a period of five years from delivery which is scheduled for later this month.

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Overseas importers at confectionery exporter's celebrations

Importers from Denmark, Germany, the Lebanon, Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands are seen with Sir Cennydd Traherne, Lord Lieutenant of Glamorgan, after he had presented the Queen's Award to Industry for export achievement to Smith Kendon Ltd. The company exports over 60 per cent of its quality confectionery to more than 40 countries. The success of a policy of export-oriented growth led Smith Kendon to move in March from London to a custom-built plant in Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan. About 200 employees are achieving production rates 50 per cent higher than attained at the old plant, and export sales are again breaking records. To mark the presentation of the Queen's Award, the company invited importers from many parts of the world, and took the opportunity to hold an international sales conference. 'The conference was so successful', says Mr. P. Connell, export manager, 'that we decided to make it an annual event, but changing the venue from country to country'.

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to Tariff Division, Department of Trade, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a trade association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption. Representations should be received by 28 November 1974.

Tariff heading	Proposed defintion for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
22.08	Fermentation ethyl alcohol or fermentation neutral spirits undenatured, of a strength of 140° proof or higher, not warehoused or warehoused less than three years	as in previous column	31 December 1975	T14969
29.25	*NN*-Diethyl-*m*-toluamide	NN' Diethyl toluamide (Technical Grade)	31 December 1975	T15231

Singapore: offshore supply base

The Port of Singapore Authority intends to expand its support facilities for the offshore oil industry. Using reclaimed land on the west coast a small port development, probably to be known as Pasir Panjang Port, will be operating there from next year with some 1,300 m. of wharves and 240,000 sq. m. of transit sheds and warehousing.

The authority intends to cater for supply vessels, and to provide space not only for storage but also for companies to undertake assembly and small-scale manufacture operations allied to the oil exploration support industry, for repairs, tooling, etc.

Companies contemplating or planning to supply the South-East Asian offshore oil industry will be interested to know that land for the new base is available. The contact for inquiries is: Mr. Oh Kean Hock, Coastal and Offshore Services, Port of Singapore Authority, Room 12, 3rd Floor, Finger Pier Building, Telok Ayer Basin, Singapore 2.

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Tariff and Trade Notices

Italy

Manufacture and retail of beer

Law No. 329 in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale*, 12 August 1974, sets out amendments to Law 1354/62 governing the production and labelling of beer for retail sale. The regulations cover the manufacture of beer, the size and labelling of bottles and containers and the marking of stoppers. A period of 12 months from the date of publication, ie 12 August 1974, is given for the disposal of goods not meeting these requirements and five years for bottles of 90 centilitres which are no longer acceptable. Copies of the Law, in Italian, are obtainable from OTAR Section, Export House. **OTAR ext. 466/467/288**

Spain

Liberalised goods transferred to global quota sector

Notice was given in *Trade and Industry*, 31 October 1974, of the temporary transfer to the global quota sector of some goods previously on the list of liberalised trade. Copies of an English translation of the resolution may be obtained from OTAR Section.

OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473

Portugal

Tariff amendments

Portuguese *Diario do Governo* No. 230, 2 October 1974, published Decree-Law 511/74, authorising the following amendments to the Portuguese import tariff:

1 Notes have been added to the tariff which permit, subject to certain conditions, the duty-free import of masterbatch and unwrought nickel under BN headings 40.05 and 75.01.02 respectively.

2 The Note to BN heading 03.03 (crustaceans and molluscs, whether in shell or not, fresh, live or dead, chilled, frozen, salted, in brine or dried; crustaceans, in shell, simply boiled in water) has been amended to include fish preserves used for restocking Portuguese hatcheries.

3 BN heading 67.04 has been amended to read:
Hairpieces (wigs, beards, eyebrows, eyelashes, switches, etc.) and the like, of human or animal hair or of textiles; other articles of human hair (including hair nets).

4 The Note to BN heading 33.04.02 (mixtures of two or more odoriferous substances (natural or artificial) and mixtures (including alcoholic solutions) with a basis of one or more of these substances, of a kind used as raw materials in the perfumery, food, drink or other industries, not containing alcohol) is revoked.

OTAR ext. 460/461

Further Information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Price control

Trade and Industry, 19 September 1974, published details of Decree Law 329-A/74 of 10 July 1974 on price control legislation in Portugal. The following are made subject to this legislation:

1 By Order 577-A/74 of 6 September 1974, milk, including pasteurised milk; pasteurised butter and cheese of the 'Flamengo' and 'Ilha' types.

2 By Order 579/74 of 7 September 1974, ammonia sold to domestic user industries.

3 By Order 598/74 of 17 September 1974, pasteurised milk on sale for consumption in hotel-type establishments.

4 By Order 652/74 of 10 October 1974, wheat flour and composite flour for culinary use.

5 By Order 653/74 of 10 October 1974, certain types of biscuits.

6 By Order 664/74 of 15 October 1974, imported sterilised milk.

7 By Order 674/74 of 17 October 1974, alkaloids of opium, its salts and derivatives, to be used in the pharmaceutical industry for the manufacture of medicaments.

Copies of these Orders, in the original Portuguese, are available on request. **OTAR ext. 460/461**

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Austria

Cotton goods from India: quota arrangements

The Federal Ministry for Trade, Commerce and Industry announced in *Bundesgesetzblatt* 624 of 18 October 1974, that in accordance with the GATT Arrangment regarding International Trade in Textiles, it has been agreed to introduce import quotas for certain cotton textiles of Indian origin as follows:

Goods	Import quota in metric tonnes for the 12-month period beginning: 1 Jan. 1974	1 Jan. 1975	1 Jan. 1976	1 Jan. 1977
Grey goods	455	482	511	542
Terry towels and towelling	48	51	54	57
Cotton yarn, finished fabrics, miscellaneous	225	239	253	268
Total	728	772	818	867

On presentation of export licences issued by the Indian authorities on the basis of firm contracts, the competent Austrian authority will licence the corresponding import. **OTAR ext. 458/461**

Shirts from Korea: quota arrangements

The Federal Ministry for Trade, Commerce and Industry announced in *Bundesgesetzblatt* 625, 18 October 1974, that in accordance with the GATT Arrangement regarding International Trade in Textiles, it has been agreed that direct and/or indirect exports of woven shirts of discontinuous synthetic fibres from the Republic of Korea to Austria will be limited to 750,000 pieces during the period 1 August 1974 to 31 July 1975. The term 'woven shirts of discontinuous synthetic fibres' includes shirts containing 50 per cent or more by weight of such fibres. Upon presentation of export recommendations issued by the Korean authorities on the basis of irrevocable letters of credit for such goods, the competent Austrian authorities will licence the corresponding import.

OTAR ext. 458/461

Coated paper: duty-free quota exhausted

The Austrian Federal Ministry for Commerce, Trade and Industry has announced in *Bundesgesetzblatt* 627, 16 October 1974, that the duty-free quota established in accordance with Protocol 1 of the EEC/Austria Free Trade Agreement for the goods shown below falling under tariff heading 48.07A originating in the United Kingdom has been exhausted. Imports originating in the United Kingdom will therefore be liable to duty as follows:

48.07	Paper and paperboard, impregnated, coated, surface-coloured, surface-decorated or printed (not being merely ruled, lined or squared and not constituting printed matter within Chapter 49), in rolls or sheets:	
	A. Coated paper and paperboard, and chromo paper and paperboard	4.5%

(Note: Baryta photographic paper but not blueprint paper falling under 48.07A is excluded from these special arrangements and imports of UK origin will remain duty free).

The duty will apply until 31 December 1974 or until the higher duties provided for in Article 6 or Protocol 1 are invoked. A new duty-free quota will be opened on 1 January 1975. **OTAR ext. 458/461**

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Israel

Modular Co-ordination Law 1972

The Israeli authorities have issued the Modular Co-ordination (Exemptions) Regulations 1974 Order, which came into force on 8 July 1974. The Order exempts extensions to residential buildings from the obligation of using modular co-ordination.

OTAR ext. 420/475

Ghana

Import licensing

Notice to Importers No. 419 (see *Trade and Industry*, 3 October 1974, page 32) said that the face value of all import licences issued for the import year 1974 and in respect of which no letters of credit had been opened would be reduced by 50 per cent with effect from 20 September. It is understood that the Bank of Ghana has since informed banks that payments for imports on collection basis shipped after 15 October require the prior approval of the Bank of Ghana (Foreign Operations Department).

The Bank of Ghana has also stated that bills for collection covering goods shipped on or before 15 October will be paid normally. But the fact that such goods had been ordered before that date is not regarded by the authorities as a 'prior commitment' and therefore any bills for collection processed after the 20 September, the date when Notice to Importers No. 419 came into effect, must be endorsed on the import licence after reduction of the balance by 50 per cent. Where such bills for collection overdraw the reduced value of the licence, special application must be made to the Bank of Ghana (Foreign Operations Department).

In view of these developments shippers would be well advised to ascertain from their customers in Ghana exactly how they stand before making further shipments, especially as the need to make special application to the Bank of Ghana may lead to delay.

CRE tel. 01-215 3064/3331

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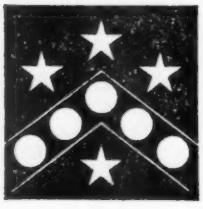

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Currency regulations 1974

The following Legal Instrument 984 on currency regulations for 1974, was published in the *Ghana Gazette*, 11 October 1974:

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Commissioner responsible for Finance by Sections 23 and 26 of the Currency Act, 1964 (Act 242) these Regulations are made this 4th day of October, 1974.

1 (1) Any traveller may import, on his person or in the baggage which belongs to and accompanies him, Ghana currency notes of a total value not exceeding C20.00 if the amount is declared and endorsement made in the passport or special Bank of Ghana Form held by the traveller at the time of disembarkation in Ghana.

(2) No person shall import Ghana currency notes of a total value exceeding C20.00.

2 (1) Any traveller may export, on his person or in the baggage which belongs to and accompanies him, Ghana currency notes of a total value not exceeding C20.00 if the amount is declared and endorsement made in the passport of special Bank of Ghana Form held by the traveller at the time of embarkation in Ghana.

(2) No person shall export Ghana currency notes of a total value exceeding C20.00 unless the Bank of Ghana has consented to their export.

3 CFA francs may be imported into Ghana provided that the person who imports them declares them at the port of disembarkation and exchanges them for Ghana currency notes only through the Bank of Ghana or an authorised dealer.

4 (1) Any traveller may export, on his person or in the baggage which belongs to and accompanies him, external currency notes of a total value not exceeding C100.00, and of a value not exceeding C20.00 in the case of any one currency:

Provided that a traveller who is not a Ghana resident may export, on his person or in the baggage which belongs to and accompanies him, external currency notes or external currency drafts which were previously imported by him.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation:

(*a*) the value of external currency notes shall be calculated at the rate at which they could be sold by an authorised dealer at the time in question;

(*b*) 'traveller' shall not include a person employed on any ship, aircraft or vehicle leaving Ghana.

5 In these Regulations, 'currency', 'external currency', and 'external currency draft' have the meanings respectively assigned to them by Section 37 of the Exchange Control Act, 1961 (Act 71).

6 The following instruments are hereby revoked:

Currency (Prohibition of Exportation of Notes) Instrument, 1964 (LI 374).

Currency (Conditions of Importation and Exportation of Currency Notes) Instrument, 1965 (LI 486).

CRE tel. 01-215 3064/3331

South Africa

Tariff changes

The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 25 October 1974.

R1919 BN 29.15: The rate of duty on phthalic acid anhydride is amended from 1,770c per kg. less 60 per cent to 20 per cent or 1,770c per 100 kg. less 60 per cent.

R1920 BN 90.24 and 90.29: The rate of duty on pressure and vacuum gauges and parts thereof is amended.

R1961 BN 84.61:
1 The rate of duty on valves of a kind used with rubber tyres and inner tubes is increased from 20 per cent to 30 per cent.
2 Goods which comply with the requirements of item 460.22 may be allowed under rebate of duty under that item.

INDUSTRIAL REBATES

R1962 BN 84.61: The provision for a rebate of duty on valves and parts thereof for the manufacture of inner tubes is now restricted to valve housings of a mass exceeding 25 g. each.

GENERAL REBATES

R1921 Item 405.04: It is made clear that only bodies affiliated to the South African National Council for the Blind and which are registered welfare organisations may enter goods in terms of item 405.04(11).

R1922 Item 460.06 – BN 29.15: The provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on phthalic acid anyhydride in such quantities and at such times as the Secretary for Industries may allow by specific permit.

OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462

Customs tariff application

Customs Tariff Application List 645, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 8 November 1974, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increases in duty on:

1 Hardboard, classifiable under tariff subheading 48.09.10

2 Textile fabrics treated with vinyl chloride classifiable under tariff sub-headings 39.02.50.55, 59.03.20.10, 59.08.50

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulations changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

3 Laminated and reinforced aluminium foil classifiable under tariff sub-headings 76.04.20.20 and 76.04.30.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to the Commercial Relations and Exports Department. **CRE tel. 01-215 5274**

The Engineering Sciences Data Unit of London and the National Technical Information Service, US Department of Commerce, celebrate its recent marketing agreement for the United States at a reception at the British Embassy in Washington. Here, Under-Secretary of Commerce, John K. Tabor (left) discusses the benefits of the agreement with (from left) James F. Barnes, Counsellor (Science and Technology) British Embassy, Dr. Anthony J. Barrett, ESDU managing director, and NTIS Director, William T. Knox. This was one of a series of events in the Embassy's Rotunda arranged by the Commercial Department to promote the products and services of British firms and organisations

Australia

Tourist accommodation industry: Industries Assistance Commission inquiry

The Australian Prime Minister has referred to the Industries Commission for inquiry and report the question whether assistance should be accorded the tourist accommodation industry, and if so, the nature and extent of such assistance.

UK trade associations or firms intending to submit evidence to the Industries Assistance Commission should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, Kings Avenue, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay by air mail.

Evidence may be submitted to the Industries Assistance Commission either directly by the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447). The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member. Ref. CRE 1302/74. **CRE tel. 01-215 5319**

Performing arts: Industries Assistance Commission inquiry

The Australian Prime Minister has referred to the Industries Assistance Commission for inquiry and report the question whether assistance should be accorded the performing arts in Australia and if so what should be the nature and extent of such assistance.

UK trade associations or firms intending to submit evidence to the Industries Assistance Commission should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, Kings Avenue, Canberra, ACT 2600 Australia, without delay by air mail.

Evidence may be submitted to the Industries Assistance Commission either directly by the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447). The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member. Ref. CRE 1301/74.

CRE tel. 01-215 5319

Canada

Tuna pullers: made in Canada ruling

The Canadian authorities have announced the transfer of tuna pullers (also known as tuna haulers or pinch line pullers) from the category of a class or kind not made in Canada to that of a class or kind made in Canada. Effective date: 21 November 1974.

OTAR ext. 455/456/457

United States

Federal Register notices

Notices of interest to British exporters have been published in the United States *Federal Register* on the dates shown in parentheses:

Pesticides: An EPA notice on proposed registration guidelines. Preliminary draft is available for inspection at EPA offices (23 October 1974).

Mining equipment: The Mining Safety Administrations proposed health and safety standards for seat belts and roll over protective structures of self propelled equipment. Comments by 9 December 1974 (24 October 1974).

Portable air compressors: Proposed noise emission standard to be established by the EPA. Comments by 2 December 1974 (29 October 1974).

A copy of the text is available in each case.

OTAR ext. 456/457/7312

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European Community

United Kingdom aids to textile industries

The form and effects of aid granted to textile industries in all member states is being examined by the Commission of the European Communities who have now requested information about the grants made to the industries in the United Kingdom during 1972.

The United Kingdom did not of course become a member of the Community until 1 January 1973 but has nevertheless provided such information as is available about grants to these industries in most cases for the financial year 1972/73.

These show as a background to Government grants a total investment for the year of £104.8 million in textiles and of £23.6 million in clothing and footwear with an annual turnover of £3,126 and £1.364 million respectively.

Regional development grants amounted to £1,028,000 to the textile industry and £622,000 to clothing and footwear. Offers made in loans and grants in Regional Selective Assistance were £1,587,000 to textiles and £41,000 for clothing and footwear. All these figures are shown in the breakdown as a percentage of the assistance to all industry as a whole.

Regional employment premiums under the Finance Act were £6.3 million for textiles and £3.7 million for clothing and footwear during 1972. The low proportion of this aid given to the clothing and textile industry indicated that only a small part of these industries is located in the special development areas and development areas to which the grants apply.

No breakdown into specific industries is available for the remaining forms of assistance under the Local Employment Act 1972 and training grants to employers.

The Commission of the European Communities is required under Article 93 of the Treaty of Rome to keep all systems of aid in Member States under review. The textile industry is the only one so far for which they have called for information. Full details of the grants to industry supplied to the Commission have been already published in the 1972/73 report on the Industry Act (Cmnd. 4942).

New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations and Decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 2704/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 1107/68 as regards the private storage aid for Grana Padano and Parmigiano Reggiano cheeses. (*Official Journal* L289, 26 October 1974)

Regulation (EEC) 2705/74 applying Class III to certain citrus fruits for the 1974/75 marketing year. (*Official Journal* L289, 26 October 1974)

Pigs and pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 2737/74 amending Regulation (EEC) 1637/74 in order to make private stotage aid available for certain pigmeat products. (*Official Journal* L292, 31 October 1974)

ITALIAN IMPORT DEPOSIT SCHEME: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L291, 30 October 1974, contains the text of Decision 74/519/EEC extending the list of agricultural products in respect of which security need not be lodged for the purpose of importation into Italy *inter alia*.

CUSTOMS DUTIES: The *Official Journal of the European Communities* C130, 24 October 1974, contains a table of customs duties applicable on goods originating in the EFTA States (Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland) and imported into the Community as originally constituted. The table, which sets out the position on 1 July 1974, also contains details of suspensions of duties applied on 1 January 1972, and of duties entering into force after 1 January 1972.

Copies of *Official Journal* C130 may be obtained from her Majesty's Stationery Office, price £1.05 plus postage.

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Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,404	9,223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1969	99	98	98	95	92	416		42	33	445	−143	588
1970	100	100	100	100	100	257	324	68	−23	692	−9	701
1971	101	103	100	94	102	−7	−126	52	−4	1,093	285	808
1972	104	109	103	85	115	−39	−205	48	3	114	−677	791
1973	109	114	108	90	121	674	374	32	242	−1,210	−2,375	1,165
1971 4th qtr.	102	105	101	90	103	—	−37	3	17	248	60	188
1972 1st qtr.	101	106	103	90	107	−36	−62	17	−16	71	−121	192
2nd qtr.	104	108	103	84	115	−27	−106	1	38	112	−64	176
3rd qtr.	104	110	102	82	115	−13	−42	6	−13	−116	−284	163
4th qtr.	106	111	105	83	123	−37	7	24	−6	+2	−208	210
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	111	89	126	257	146	11	32	−184	−351	167
2nd qtr.	109	112	104	86	112	202	61	−9	163	−195	−399	204
3rd qtr.	110	114	109	91	120	94	68	6	22	−274	−606	332
4th qtr.	110	114	109	94	124	121	99	24	25	−557	−1,019	462
1974 1st qtr.	106	114	111	98	111	−258	−100	8	−73	−985	−1,286	301
2nd qtr.	110	112	102	99	106	216	105	38	17	−1,051	−1,361	310
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	−1.6	−0.9	−2.9	+6.6	−11.1							
on a year earlier	−1.4	−0.6	−1.2	+12.9	−8.8							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
				monthly averages									monthly averages	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan 16, 1962		1970	1970	July 31, 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1970	100.0	100.0	99.0	91.4	140.2	6.4	100.0	100.0	78.5	568	2.5	186	658	659
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	733	709
1972	102.4	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	761	818
1973	109.8	110.3	110.7	137.3	179.4	9.2	144.4	123.2*	115.5	581	2.6	304	953	1,151
1972 4th qtr.	105.9	105.7	109.2	144	169.4	7.7	115.6	118.0	107.8	750	3.3	179	871	940
1973 1st qtr.	109.8	109.7	111.8	152	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.8	667	2.9	228	878	995
2nd qtr.	109.4	109.8	108.3	136	177.9	9.3	133.3	120.1*	112.6	605	2.6	289	931	1,064
3rd qtr.	110.7	111.4	110.6	143	180.2	9.2	150.8	124.2	118.4	562	2.5	334	995	1,197
4th qtr.	109.5	110.4	112.0	119	186.8	10.3	167.6	129.1	120.9	489	2.2	364	1,008	1,348
1974 1st qtr.	103.7	105.8	109.9	103	101.4†	12.9	214.3	138.4	125.0	543	2.4	285	1,124	1,553
2nd qtr.	108.5	109.7	107.5	104	107.5	15.8	215.8	148.9	131.7	552	2.4	309	1,283	1,737
3rd qtr.			111.0	108	110.2	17.0	216.1	155.8	142.7	600	2.7	306	1,374	1,766
1973 Aug.	110.5	111.3	110.7	153	180.2	8.9	152.5	124.1	119.7	563	2.5	330	980	1,206
Sept.	110.8	111.6	110.6	129	181.8	9.3	154.7	125.8	120.0	542	2.4	349	1,043	1,239
Oct.	111.4	112.0	111.2	127	185.4	9.9	161.7	127.7	120.3	512	2.3	363	982	1,385
Nov.	110.4	111.7	112.1	126	186.8	10.3	166.0	129.0	121.0	486	2.2	368	1,022	1,304
Dec.	106.6	107.5	112.6	103	188.2	10.6	175.1	130.6	122.0	470	2.1	362	1,019	1,354
1974 Jan.	101.5	102.5	109.2	93	191.8	12.0	210.7	134.1	123.7	535	2.4	304	1,012	1,391
Feb.	103.3	106.8	110.2	109	101.7†	13.2	215.1	138.5	124.7	549	2.4	278	1,153	1,599
Mar.	106.3	108.1	110.1	106	102.6	13.5	217.0	142.2	126.5	545	2.4	274	1,208	1,675
Apr.	108.1	109.5	108.1	96	106.1	15.2	217.4	146.3	127.6	546	2.4	297	1,255	1,662
May	108.1	108.9	105.8	105	107.6	15.9	216.0	148.9	131.5	548	2.4	314	1,270	1,747
June	109.3	110.8	108.3	111	108.7	16.5	213.9	151.1	136.1	561	2.5	317	1,325	1,802
July	110.0	111.1	109.3	105	109.7	17.1	214.6	153.5	138.7	582	2.6	317	1,328	1,805
Aug.	110.5	112.4	111.5	102	109.8	16.9	216.7	156.1	144.3	606	2.7	298	1,378 p	1,699 p
Sept.			112.1	118	111.0	17.1	216.0	158.5	145.0	612	2.7	303	1,417 p	1,795 p
Oct.			111.5 p				223.0	161.2		607 p	2.7 p	297 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+2.3	+2.4	+3.8	+4.1	+2.5		+1.7	+4.9	+8.3	+7.9		−5.3	+7.1	+1.7
on a year earlier	−0.5	−0.1	+0.8	−24.2	+17.0		+39.8	+26.0	+20.3	+12.9		−13.8	+38.1	+47.5

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan 1974 = 100.

United Kingdom overseas trade: Import and export unit value and volume indices and terms of trade for September

Balance of payments basis (Table 1)

The export unit value index, on a balance of payments basis, rose by 1 per cent in September. The average for the third quarter of 1974 was 6 per cent above the average for the second quarter.

The import unit value index was almost unchanged in September. The index for the third quarter of 1974 was one and a half per cent above that for the second quarter. Excluding fuels, the figures for September show a fall of half of 1 per cent, while the quarterly comparison shows a rise of over 2 per cent.

The terms of trade rose by one point in September, and by 3½ points in the third quarter.

Overseas Trade Statistics basis (Tables 2–4)

Export unit value index numbers

Comparing the average for the third quarter with the average for the second quarter, the export unit value index for non-manufactures rose by 3½ per cent, while the index for manufactures rose by nearly 7 per cent. Within manufactures, the index for chemicals rose by 9½ per cent, for metals by 9 per cent, while those for textiles, and for machinery and transport equipment rose by 6 per cent.

Import unit value index numbers

Between the second and third quarters, the import unit value index for fuels fell by just under 1 per cent. The index for food, drink and tobacco rose by 2 per cent, for basic materials by 5½ per cent, and for manufactured goods by 1 per cent.

Notes

1 Table 1 is on a balance of payment basis. Tables 2–4 are on an Overseas Trade Statistics basis. The adjustments which have to be made to the figures recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics to bring them to a balance of payments basis relate either to the coverage of the statistics or to the valuation of items which are recorded. The adjustments are described in detail in the annual Balance of Payments Pink Book. A brief description of the way in which the index numbers on a balance of payments basis are calculated was published in the article giving unit value and volume index numbers for March 1971 in *Trade and Industry* of 26 May 1971.

2 An article was published in the 11 October 1973 issue of *Trade and Industry* introducing the import and export unit value and volume indices with 1970 = 100, superseding the series with 1961 = 100.

3 Industrial action at Heathrow during October 1973 affected the flow of some import documents. All indices for October 1973 and November 1973 have been adjusted to remove the distortion arising from the interruption to statistical processing in October. As a result, the series in Tables 2 to 4 do not reflect the detailed figures contained in the October and November issues of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom.*

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	ø fifty-three week period

TABLE 1 Import and export unit value and volume index numbers on a balance of payments basis 1970 = 100

	Unit value Index Numbers (Unadjusted)			Volume Index Numbers (Seasonally adjusted)	
	Imports	Exports	Terms of Trade†	Imports	Exports
1971	104.3	105.6	101.2	104.2	106.7
1972	109.2	111.0	101.7	116.6	106.7
1973	139.1	125.5	90.3	131.8	119.2
1972 1st quarter	107.1	110.2	102.9	112.1	104.7
2nd quarter	107.6	110.7	103.0	114.3	109.0
3rd quarter	111.4	114.0	102.3	111.0	94.5
4th quarter	116.5	115.1	98.8	129.0	118.9
1973 1st quarter	123.2	119.2	96.7	129.2	116.9
2nd quarter	132.8	123.5	93.0	127.1	119.3
3rd quarter	146.4	128.5	87.8	133.4	121.5
4th quarter *	161.6	135.3	83.7	137.4	119.3
1974 1st quarter p	189.6	146 0	77.0	135.0	123.6
2nd quarter p	213.3	160.5	75.2	133.0	127.7
3rd quarter p	216.9	170.6	78.7	133.6	127.2
1973 January	120.5	117.1	97.2	126.3	119.1
February	123.2	119.4	96.9	126.1	118.0
March	125.9	120.9	96.0	135.2	113.7
April	130.2	122.1	93.8	116.4	121.8
May	132.9	123.6	93.0	135.0	115.5
June	135.2	124.9	92.4	129.9	120.5
July	140.7	126.6	89.9	134.1	119.7
August	146.2	128.3	87.8	134.9	121.1
September	152.2	130.7	85.9	131.2	123.6
October *	155.0	131.6	84.9	143.9	120.7
November *	160.2	135.1	84.3	134.1	122.4
December	169.6	139.2	82.1	134.2	114.7
1974 January p	176.7	141.3	80.0	130.8	114.8
February p	190.0	145.2	76.5	137.7	127.7
March p	202.2	151.3	74.8	136.6	128.1
April p	209.4	156.9	74.9	132.8	128.6
May p	213.1	159.8	75.0	132.8	127.4
June p	217.4	164.7	75.7	133.5	127.2
July p	218.2	167.4	76.7	135.7	125.5
August p	216.5	171.3	79.1	128.5	127.8
September p	216.0	173.0	80.1	136.7	128.2

Note: Figures are shown to one decimal place to assist users, but smal month to month movements may have little significance.
† Export Unit Value index as a percentage of the Import Unit Value index.
p Provisional estimates.
* See note (3) about imports through London Airport.

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TABLE 2 Import and export unit value index numbers (unadjusted) (Overseas Trade Statistics basis) 1970 = 100

	Imports					Exports							
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Manufactured goods	Total	Non-manufactures	Manufactured goods: Total	Chemicals	Textiles	Metals	Machinery and transport eqpt.	Other
Section or Division		0 and 1	2 and 4	3	5 to 8		0 to 4	5 to 8	5	65	67 to 69	7	
Weights	1,000	227	151	105	506	1,000	123	844	97	49	119	410	169
1971	104.6	107	102	122	101	105.6	107	105	102	102	99	110	102
1972	108.7	114	106	123	104	111.1	114	111	104	104	100	118	107
1973	137.8	150	141	164	126	125.5	139	124	114	123	115	128	125
1972 1st quarter	106.3	111	101	120	103	110.3	110	110	105	102	98	118	106
2nd quarter	107.4	112	104	120	104	110.8	112	111	104	104	100	119	104
3rd quarter *	110.8					114.1							
4th quarter	115.8	122	115	127	111	115.1	118	115	107	107	103	122	113
1973 1st quarter	122.2	132	124	136	115	119.1	127	118	109	112	108	124	118
2nd quarter	131.8	146	135	144	122	123.5	132	122	112	120	113	128	123
3rd quarter	144.6	159	147	162	134	128.4	141	127	115	126	120	131	130
4th quarter †	159.4	172	162	215	143	135.2	158	133	125	136	129	135	133
1974 1st quarter p	188.0	182	180	395	152	145.8	188	141	137	144	138	142	139
2nd quarter p	210.2	192	199	483	167	160.3	210	154	162	160	155	152	151
3rd quarter p	213.4	196	210	479	169	170.4	218	164	177	169	169	161	160
1973 January	119.4	129	122	132	112	117.0	122	116	109	111	104	123	115
February	121.7	133	123	138	114	119.4	126	119	110	114	108	124	118
March	125.4	135	127	140	118	120.8	132	119	109	113	111	124	120
April	129.5	143	132	139	121	122.0	131	121	111	118	111	126	122
May	131.8	146	137	145	121	123.5	132	122	113	120	112	128	123
June	134.1	149	137	148	124	124.9	134	124	113	122	115	129	125
July	139.0	152	140	152	130	126.5	138	125	112	124	116	130	128
August	144.5	160	146	163	134	128.2	140	127	115	126	120	130	130
September	150.3	166	154	171	139	130.6	144	129	117	127	123	132	133
October †	153.7	169	159	183	140	131.6	145	130	121	131	126	133	130
November †	158.3	171	161	210	142	135.0	153	133	125	138	130	135	132
December	166.1	175	165	252	146	139.1	174	135	128	140	132	136	136
1974 January p	175.9	178	173	321	147	141.2	177	137	129	140	132	139	137
February p	188.7	181	179	407	151	145.2	188	140	136	144	138	141	138
March p	199.5	186	189	457	157	151.1	198	145	147	148	144	146	143
April p	206.5	187	194	483	163	156.7	206	150	157	152	150	149	149
May p	210.2	192	199	476	168	159.7	211	153	161	162	154	152	149
June p	214.0	197	204	489	170	164.5	213	158	167	165	162	156	155
July p	214.3	198	208	484	170	167.2	217	161	172	169	165	158	156
August p	213.3	196	210	476	169	171.1	220	165	178	169	172	161	161
September p	212.6	194	213	478	168	172.8	217	167	181	170	169	166	162

* Details not shown due to distortion by dock strike. p Provisional estimates † See note (3) about imports through London Airport.

TABLE 3 Import and export volume index numbers (unadjusted) (Overseas Trade Statistics basis) 1970 = 100

	Imports					Exports							
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Manufactured goods	Total	Non-manufactures	Manufactured goods: Total	Chemicals	Textiles	Metals	Machinery and transport eqpt.	Other
Section or Division		0 and 1	2 and 4	3	5 to 8		0 to 4	5 to 8	5	65	67 to 69	7	
Weights	1,000	227	151	105	506	1,000	123	844	97	49	119	410	169
1971	104.8	100	91	109	110	109.0	104	110	110	106	107	108	119
1972	116.1	102	93	109	131	111.4	110	112	118	111	108	108	128
1973	132.8	103	104	112	159	126.6	124	128	143	127	123	117	148
1972 1st quarter	115.5	105	90	122	126	107.6	103	109	113	106	103	104	122
2nd quarter	116.8	105	94	111	130	117.4	112	119	130	116	115	112	134
3rd quarter *	106.2					92.4							
4th quarter	126.8	108	104	108	147	126.6	134	126	131	129	126	120	138
1973 1st quarter	134.4	112	105	113	158	121.8	115	124	135	124	121	115	141
2nd quarter	130.8	103	103	115	156	127.7	118	131	147	135	125	121	146
3rd quarter	129.1	95	106	110	155	122.1	123	123	141	120	110	112	147
4th quarter †	138.2	103	106	114	168	134.0	139	133	148	130	127	123	155
1974 1st quarter p	136.5	97	99	116	170	127.7	127	129	161	134	126	119	133
2nd quarter p	140.1	100	103	113	174	136.3	129	139	176	143	117	127	160
3rd quarter p	130.4	98	99	102	160	129.2	126	130	165	112	113	123	145
1973 January	143.0	127	113	124	162	127.1	120	129	137	125	126	124	143
February	117.4	91	93	101	140	115.8	105	118	124	115	113	110	138
March	142.8	117	108	115	171	122.3	119	125	145	131	122	112	143
April	116.6	95	95	104	136	123.1	114	126	134	121	119	113	158
May	143.6	112	111	120	174	130.7	124	133	157	143	131	127	131
June	132.3	103	103	122	157	129.4	117	133	151	142	124	123	149
July	133.2	97	104	104	165	129.5	122	132	145	134	122	124	150
August	130.9	95	111	134	152	123.6	126	124	148	119	110	112	149
September	123.0	92	104	93	149	113.3	121	113	130	109	98	101	143
October †	152.6	110	124	135	183	139.8	149	140	158	140	137	127	162
November †	139.8	108	104	112	169	142.0	151	141	154	134	131	128	172
December	122.4	92	90	94	152	120.3	118	119	133	115	113	113	130
1974 January p	133.5	97	101	121	162	118.0	119	118	145	129	123	115	106
February p	132.6	90	95	108	169	128.8	142	128	165	132	127	117	136
March p	143.5	105	101	118	179	136.1	120	139	174	142	129	127	157
April p	140.1	99	99	108	178	132.4	122	135	170	149	111	126	150
May p	145.0	105	109	120	178	146.3	144	148	189	155	125	135	173
June p	135.2	97	102	110	167	130.1	123	133	169	126	116	120	157
July p	144.8	111	103	111	180	143.7	141	144	181	125	123	136	160
August p	121.4	90	100	97	147	121.5	119	122	164	107	105	115	132
September p	124.9	93	94	99	154	122.3	117	125	151	105	110	118	143

* Details not shown due to distortion by dock strike. p Provisional estimates. † See note (3) about imports through London Airport.

TABLE 4 Import and export volume index numbers (seasonally adjusted) (Overseas Trade Statistics basis) 1970=100

	Imports					Exports							
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Manufactured goods	Total	Non-manufactures	Manufactured goods: Total	Chemicals	Textiles	Metals	Machinery and transport eqpt.	Other
Section or Division		0 and 1	2 and 4	3	5 to 8		0 to 4	5 to 8	5	65	67 to 69	7	
Weights	1,000	227	151	105	506	1,000	123	844	97	49	119	410	169
1972 1st quarter	112.6	100	92	115	123	109.2	108	110	115	108	106	105	123
2nd quarter	113.2	102	94	106	125	113.2	111	115	120	112	110	107	133
3rd quarter *	111.3					99.3							
4th quarter	127.4	107	103	109	150	123.8	123	125	134	124	120	119	137
1973 1st quarter	128.4	105	105	105	150	123.1	120	125	137	126	126	114	143
2nd quarter	128.0	101	103	111	151	125.1	120	128	139	132	124	116	151
3rd quarter	136.8	102	104	119	166	129.9	131	130	147	130	121	122	148
4th quarter †	137.9	103	103	114	170	128.3	124	129	149	122	120	118	151
1974 1st quarter p	136.4	95	104	112	169	130.4	135	131	166	139	131	120	135
2nd quarter p	137.0	99	104	110	169	134.7	132	136	167	140	115	123	164
3rd quarter p	136.9	104	96	109	168	136.2	132	138	170	120	121	133	148
1973 January	127.2	114	98	105	148	125.6	120	128	138	125	133	120	139
February	125.3	96	101	106	148	123.6	119	126	132	125	122	117	149
March	132.7	105	115	103	154	120.0	123	120	141	128	122	105	141
April	117.8	98	102	103	136	128.2	119	134	133	126	123	118	185
May	135.6	108	106	112	160	121.1	122	120	140	131	123	113	121
June	130.7	99	101	119	156	126.6	118	128	143	137	125	117	148
July	135.3	100	102	115	164	126.6	124	128	141	134	122	119	147
August	139.7	104	102	137	167	130.3	139	129	151	129	121	121	140
September	135.3	101	108	106	166	132.6	130	133	148	126	122	125	157
October †	142.6	104	116	132	171	129.0	127	130	150	122	124	119	154
November †	136.8	101	100	109	169	131.8	131	131	152	123	119	120	158
December	134.3	103	95	102	171	123.9	113	124	146	120	117	115	142
1974 January p	128.4	93	96	112	159	120.6	122	121	152	133	132	116	107
February p	140.7	94	103	113	177	136.6	159	137	176	143	134	124	145
March p	140.2	99	114	112	170	134.0	124	134	170	139	126	119	155
April p	135.9	98	103	103	171	136.0	123	139	164	151	109	127	168
May p	136.1	102	105	114	165	134.8	143	135	170	143	116	122	159
June p	138.9	97	106	112	172	133.2	130	134	168	127	119	120	163
July p	140.2	110	97	118	171	133.7	137	133	168	119	116	125	150
August p	133.1	101	95	102	166	136.9	137	137	177	122	119	132	143
September p	137.4	102	96	107	166	137.9	120	143	166	118	129	142	151

* Details not shown due to distortion by dock strike.
p Provisional estimates.
† See note (3) about imports through London Airport.

'Economic Progress Report' for November

The main articles in the November issue of *Economic Progress Report*, prepared by the Treasury Information Division, are as follows:

Monthly economic assessment

Among the developments set out in the Treasury's latest monthly report on the economic situation are the improvement in the balance of payments and the terms of trade during the year, the slower rise in retail prices following the July measures, the resumption of growth of consumer demand in the third quarter and the continuing rise of industrial output. The report was prepared on the basis of data available up to late-October 1974.

Women in employment

The Government has undertaken to introduce legislation to promote equality of opportunity for women in employment, education and other services. A major factor in the expansion of the labour force in recent years has been the increasing number of women taking paid employment. This article looks at the numbers of women currently in paid employment and where they work.

Index of industrial production

The third in a series of notes explaining the various statistical indicators available for measuring trends in the economy. The index of industrial production aims to provide a general picture of monthly changes in the volume of industrial production in the United Kingdom.

Economic indicators

A full page of charts illustrating some main indicators of the course of the economy 1972-74 and a table containing the most recent figures.

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Activity in the chemicals industry

This article is one of a quarterly series presenting the latest information available on activity in the chemicals industry. More detailed information at product level is published in the Business Monitor series in respect of the majority of the sectors of the industry.

Output (Table 1)

The output of the chemicals industry in the second quarter of 1974 was 2.6 per cent above the level in the first quarter, with the first half of 1974 showing an annual rate of growth of nearly 11 per cent over the second half of 1973. For recent quarters the figures given in Table 1 may overestimate the production of chemicals for two reasons. Firstly, the figures are based on sales some of which may have been supplied by an exceptional run-down of stocks. Secondly, the use of prices in the home market to deflate sales figures, which include a substantial proportion of exports, the prices of which are likely to have been rising faster than those of goods in the home market, may also have led to an overstatement of the growth in output in recent quarters.

In general the upward trend in sales of most chemicals in the first quarter of 1974 continued in the second quarter. However, in the second quarter sales of paint and 'other chemicals' were significantly lower than in the two previous quarters, and sales of dyestuffs and pigments recovered after a drop in the first quarter. The level of sales of synthetic rubber in the first half of 1974 was below the average level in 1973, which was a year of very high sales due to the price advantage over natural rubber at that time.

Imports and exports (Tables 2 and 3)

Imports of chemicals in the second quarter of 1974 amounted to £415 million at current prices, which was a 90 per cent increase on the second quarter of 1973. In particular, imports of organic chemicals showed a 157 per cent increase, reflecting the buoyancy of the home market for these products.

Exports of chemicals in the second quarter of 1974 amounted to £583 million at current prices, which was a 70 per cent increase on the second quarter of 1973. Again the growth area was organic chemicals, which had a 146 per cent increase. The value of exports exceeded that of imports by £168 million, compared with £126 million for the same period a year earlier. The main components of this favourable crude trade balance were 'other general chemicals' (£30 million), pharmaceuticals (£42 million), dyestuffs and pigments (£33 million) and 'other chemicals' (£35 million).

Patent Office publications for industry

The Patent Office offers industry a wide range of publications. These include the Official Journal (Patents), the Trade Marks Journal, British Patent Specifications, Illustrated Abridgements of Patent Specifications, Reports of Patent, Design and Trade Mark Cases, and 50-year subject matter file lists of British Patent Specifications. Details of these and other publications may be obtained by post from Sale Branch, the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RD; or by personal application at the Public Sale Counter of the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, WC2.

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Prices (Tables 4 and 5)

The home market price index for chemicals rose by just over 11 per cent between the first two quarters of 1974, compared with 7.7 per cent for all manufacturers. The respective increases between the fourth quarter of 1973 and the first quarter of 1974 were 10.4 per cent and 7.1 per cent. The chemicals contributing most to the recent rise were organics (20 per cent increase between the first two quarters of 1974) and synthetic resins and plastics materials (18 per cent). Over the same period the price of materials and fuel purchased by the chemicals industry increased 7 per cent, compared with 30 per cent between the fourth quarter of 1973 and the first quarter of 1974. Increases in the price of purchases of all manufacturing industry were 0.7 per cent and 28 per cent respectively.

Employment (Table 6)

Provisional figures show that there were 432.6 thousand employees in the chemicals industry in June 1974. Although this is slightly down on the figure for December 1973, it is significantly above the level recorded in June 1973 and suggests that there is an underlying upward trend in employment.

Capital expenditure (Table 7)

Capital expenditure in the second quarter of 1974 was £86 million at current prices.

The seasonally-adjusted series at constant prices shows that, although investment has risen since the end of 1973, it is still very low compared with years prior to 1973.

TABLE 1 Commodity sales and output

Index numbers 1970 = 100

Commodity sales	1968 MLH	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1972 (b) 4th qtr.	1973 (b) 1st qtr.	1973 (b) 2nd qtr.	1973 (b) 3rd qtr.	1973 (b) 4th qtr.	1974 (a) (b) 1st qtr.	1974 (a) (b) 2nd qtr.	% Growth rates p.a. 1966/73	% Growth rates p.a. 1972/73
General chemicals	271	79	83	90	97	100	104	110	134	118	130	131	135	138	149	152	7.8	21.8
Inorganic chemicals	271/1	95	97	101	101	100	99	99	111	104	111	111	110	110	122	123	2.2	12.1
Organic chemicals	271/2	69	73	81	94	100	107	121	153	137	147	147	154	165	176	180	12.0	26.4
Other chemicals	271/3	78	84	92	97	100	106	108	137	113	133	135	141	138	148	154	8.3	26.9
Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	272	67	70	77	89	100	101	106	124	111	121	122	127	127	135	139	9.2	17.0
Toilet preparations	273	95	98	98	97	100	106	113	131	113	121	135	129	139	145	133	4.6	15.9
Paint	274	85	89	93	95	100	108	116	132	114	143	127	128	130	137	128	6.4	13.8
Soap and detergents	275	97	96	98	101	100	100	109	112	111	117	109	108	114	123	116	2.0	2.8
Synthetic resins and plastics materials	276/1	71	77	89	102	100	101	111	140	116	135	138	141	144	145	150	10.1	26.1
Synthetic rubber	276/2	64	68	77	93	100	91	100	130	116	121	138	122	138	123	123	10.4	30.0
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	80	80	88	93	100	97	107	111	108	108	110	112	114	107	114	4.7	3.7
Fertilisers	278	93	101	102	95	100	106	87	96	48	85	75	115	107	106	110	0.4	10.3
Other chemical industries	279	92	98	97	97	100	103	109	119	114	116	114	121	124	122	113	3.7	9.2
Total output	Order V	79.1	83.3	89.8	95.0	100.0	102.2	108.0	120.9	112.6	118.4	119.3	122.9	123.2	127.9	131.2	6.2	11.9
Total all manufacturing industry		89.2	89.8	95.8	99.6	100.0	99.6	102.0	110.3	105.8	109.7	109.8	111.4	110.4	105.8	109.7	3.1	8.1

(a) Part estimated. (b) Seasonally adjusted.

TABLE 2 Imports of the chemical industry: current prices

£ million

	Inorganic chemicals 271/1	Organic chemicals 271/2	Other chemicals 271/3	Pharm. chems. and preps. 272	Toilet preparations 273	Paint 274	Soap and detergents 275	Synthetic resins 276/1	Synthetic rubber 276/2	Dyestuffs and pigments 277	Fertilisers 278	Products of other chemical industries 279	Total
1963	18.5	54.7	32.1	8.4	2.0	1.9	4.0	42.6	10.8	11.2	20.1	12.0	218.4
1964	26.0	71.0	38.0	8.9	2.7	2.2	3.3	53.5	11.7	14.9	18.8	14.2	265.1
1965	29.4	86.0	43.4	13.4	2.8	2.4	3.6	53.6	10.0	15.3	19.6	15.6	295.1
1966	33.1	85.4	43.2	16.4	3.2	2.7	5.0	58.4	11.1	15.7	17.9	17.1	309.2
1967	38.0	95.4	44.2	17.5	3.3	3.4	5.7	64.2	13.0	17.9	26.3	13.0	347.9
1968	46.8	118.1	59.1	21.8	4.4	4.5	7.5	81.3	14.6	24.8	29.2	22.8	434.9
1969	56.9	136.4	66.6	29.1	4.6	4.8	6.7	91.4	16.8	25.0	24.2	24.1	486.6
1970	70.5	160.7	71.7	38.4	5.1	5.5	5.8	109.0	18.8	26.7	23.1	30.6	565.9
1971	68.3	147.3	82.5	42.2	6.2	5.9	9.4	116.5	20.5	35.7	25.9	34.9	595.2
1972	74.6	160.6	102.7	49.1	9.0	5.5	12.6	140.1	20.7	39.2	32.9	39.9	686.9
1973	96.7	236.9	125.9	74.3	15.1	7.7	14.2	199.3	27.0	54.5	35.2	55.3	942.0
1969 1st quarter	13.0	30.7	17.7	6.3	0.8	1.0	1.6	20.3	3.9	6.5	8.0	6.0	115.8
2nd quarter	15.2	34.6	16.8	7.1	1.2	1.3	1.7	24.9	4.6	6.8	5.7	6.3	128.2
3rd quarter	14.3	35.0	15.4	7.7	1.4	1.3	1.7	23.4	4.1	5.7	6.1	6.3	122.4
4th quarter	14.4	36.0	16.7	8.0	1.1	1.3	1.6	22.8	4.2	8.0	4.4	5.6	122.1
1970 1st quarter	17.3	37.6	16.9	9.6	0.0	1.3	1.3	25.1	4.5	5.7	7.3	8.1	135.5
2nd quarter	17.3	40.5	19.4	8.8	1.4	1.5	1.6	28.1	5.2	8.7	4 4	7.7	142.8
3rd quarter	16.7	40.4	17.0	9.1	1.6	1.6	1.4	27.3	4.0	7.5	4.9	7.7	139.2
4th quarter	19.2	42.2	18.5	10.9	1.2	1.1	1.5	28.4	5.0	6.8	6.5	7.2	148.4
1971 1st quarter	18.0	40.2	20.2	10.3	1.3	1.3	1.9	28.3	4.6	9.2	8.9	9.9	153.9
2nd quarter	18.6	36.4	21.8	10.8	1.8	1.4	2.6	29.7	5.3	9.5	5.1	9.0	152.1
3rd quarter	13.9	35.3	21.7	9.9	1.8	1.6	2.5	30.7	5.6	8.3	6.0	8.2	145.4
4th quarter	17.8	35.4	18.9	11.2	1.3	1.6	2.4	27.8	5.0	8.7	6.0	7.7	143.8
1972 1st quarter	18.3	38.8	28.3	11.2	1.7	1.3	4.2	33.9	4.9	9.8	9.8	10.4	172.6
2nd quarter	19.4	37.3	28.1	11.2	2.0	1.4	2.6	34.8	5.3	9.8	10.5	10.4	172.7
3rd quarter	16.5	37.2	22.4	12.5	2.3	1.2	2.6	33.8	4.8	9.5	4.8	9.1	156.8
4th quarter	20.3	47.2	23.9	14.2	3.0	1.5	3.3	37.7	5.7	10.1	7.8	10.1	184.8
1973 1st quarter	24.4	47.6	28.6	15.6	2.5	1.8	3.2	43.6	6.0	12.6	12.1	13.8	211.7
2nd quarter	23.0	54.3	26.8	17.3	3.9	1.8	3.6	46.0	7.1	13.3	7.6	13.0	217.7
3rd quarter	23.7	62.8	32.7	21.1	4.4	2.0	3.6	51.6	6.7	14.8	7.5	14.0	244.8
4th quarter	25.6	72.2	37.8	20.4	4.3	2.1	3.8	58.2	7.2	13.7	8.0	14.5	267.7
1974 1st quarter	32.7	104.1	42.1	24.4	4.8	4.6	4.6	83.6	8.3	18.7	12.3	19.6	359.8
2nd quarter	35.6	139.8	47.2	27.4	5.7	2.9	6.8	85.6	9.9	19.1	13.0	21.7	414.7

TABLE 3 Exports of the chemical industry: current prices

£ million

	Inorganic chemicals	Organic chemicals	Other chemicals	Pharm. chems. and preps.	Toilet prepara-tions.	Paint	Soap and deter-gents	Synthetic resins	Synthetic rubber	Dyestuffs and pigments	Fertilisers	Products of other chemical industries	Of which: Pesticides	Photo-graphic materials	Total
	271/1	271/2	271/3	272	273	274	275	276/1	276/2	277	278	279	279/4	279/7	
1963	34.7	58.3	57.0	50.9	10.7	14.0	15.2	61.0	7.2	30.3	4.9	47.2	10.5	13.4	391.4
1964	38.6	65.2	63.7	56.4	11.3	14.3	15.3	71.2	7.8	35.6	5.9	51.8	12.1	14.7	437.1
1965	42.5	64.6	70.9	63.6	12.0	14.0	15.3	79.8	9.2	35.6	8.1	54.3	11.9	16.4	470.0
1966	41.9	69.7	74.3	70.4	13.0	14.1	14.9	86.0	10.7	36.8	7.8	60.3	15.0	17.2	498.7
1967	41.4	75.4	77.5	75.2	14.0	13.4	16.2	91.5	10.0	37.5	8.4	63.6	17.0	19.1	524.0
1968	50.1	99.3	93.9	92.6	17.3	16.3	18.6	107.0	14.1	45.1	7.5	82.9	21.0	27.3	644.7
1969	51.3	109.8	109.5	112.9	20.4	17.6	22.5	124.1	17.5	50.1	6.4	99.0	26.2	33.5	740.1
1970	61.5	135.7	127.0	134.1	22.4	19.5	23.5	139.1	19.8	53.6	4.8	105.0	26.5	39.8	846.2
1971	62.7	154.4	148.9	161.1	23.9	21.6	23.8	154.9	22.2	58.7	3.6	121.0	32.7	45.3	956.8
1972	58.0	160.5	155.3	172.9	28.2	19.7	28.8	171.4	25.7	79.2	7.0	122.7	33.5	53.5	1,029.2
1973	81.5	244.1	198.0	212.6	34.4	24.2	38.0	217.5	34.3	107.0	14.8	150.1	42.0	64.5	1,356.3
969 1st quarter	11.5	24.3	23.8	25.3	4.3	4.0	4.9	27.8	4.2	11.1	1.9	22.4	6.4	6.6	165.6
2nd quarter	13.8	26.8	28.5	28.6	5.0	4.4	5.1	32.3	4.3	12.7	1.0	26.3	7.3	9.0	188.8
3rd quarter	13.2	28.7	29.0	29.0	5.1	4.4	6.2	30.2	4.0	12.4	0.8	24.8	6.1	8.9	187.8
4th quarter	12.8	30.0	28.3	29.9	5.9	4.9	6.3	33.8	5.0	13.9	1.6	25.5	6.4	9.0	197.9
1970 1st quarter	13.7	31.8	29.1	31.0	5.0	4.3	5.6	33.2	4.4	12.5	1.7	25.0	8.0	8.1	197.2
2nd quarter	18.3	33.0	31.6	32.7	6.0	5.1	6.0	37.8	5.9	14.3	1.4	29.4	8.3	11.1	221.4
3rd quarter	13.8	32.6	30.5	31.3	5.3	4.4	5.6	31.2	4.6	12.7	0.6	24.0	5.1	10.3	196.7
4th quarter	15.9	38.3	35.8	39.0	6.2	5.6	6.3	37.0	4.9	14.1	1.1	26.5	5.0	10.3	230.8
1971 1st quarter	14.8	35.3	30.5	34.3	5.1	4.9	5.6	34.2	5.3	13.2	1.4	26.8	8.1	9.5	211.6
2nd quarter	16.7	41.2	37.6	44.6	5.9	5.6	6.2	39.8	5.0	14.7	0.8	33.3	9.8	12.3	251.2
3rd quarter	15.3	38.1	42.4	40.4	6.0	5.2	6.0	38.2	5.5	14.8	0.4	28.7	7.1	11.8	241.0
4th quarter	15.8	39.9	38.3	41.9	6.9	5.8	6.0	42.7	6.4	16.0	1.0	32.2	7.7	11.8	253.1
1972 1st quarter	12.6	36.0	37.5	41.7	6.4	4.7	6.9	41.2	6.8	17.6	1.8	28.5	9.0	11.1	241.9
2nd quarter	16.7	43.7	42.3	43.7	7.3	5.7	7.9	45.7	6.6	22.0	1.4	37.1	11.8	15.0	280.1
3rd quarter	11.5	37.1	34.4	37.7	5.9	3.9	6.0	34.1	5.1	16.7	1.4	24.2	4.9	12.4	218.1
4th quarter	17.1	43.6	41.2	49.9	8.5	5.4	8.0	50.3	7.2	22.9	2.4	32.8	7.8	15.0	289.3
1973 1st quarter	16.6	52.4	42.5	48.5	7.8	5.3	8.7	50.8	7.9	23.8	3.9	36.9	12.5	14.0	305.0
2nd quarter	19.9	58.8	52.0	54.3	8.7	6.2	9.5	55.0	8.9	25.6	3.7	41.0	11.8	17.9	343.6
3rd quarter	21.4	62.5	48.8	52.5	8.8	5.9	9.1	50.5	8.1	26.3	2.1	35.1	8.2	16.5	331.1
4th quarter	23.6	70.5	54.6	57.3	9.0	6.8	10.7	61.2	9.4	31.2	5.0	37.0	9.5	16.1	376.6
1974 1st quarter	26.2	105.6	58.0	61.6	9.8	7.5	12.7	72.4	10.9	39.9	9.7	48.1	15.3	18.2	462.4
2nd quarter	31.8	144.5	77.3	69.4	11.6	9.9	17.6	96.5	12.7	45.2	9.4	56.7	16.2	23.6	582.6

TABLE 4 Home market prices

1970 = 100

	1968 MLH	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1971	1972				1973				1974	
								4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.
Inorganic chemicals	271/1	92.6	95.0	100.0	108.0	112.3	116.8	109.3	111.0	111.6	112.5	114.3	114.9	115.2	117.4	119.7	126.2	137.7
Organic chemicals	271/2	98.7	98.3	100.0	106.3	108.1	112.9	106.8	106.9	108.0	108.3	109.1	110.0	111.2	113.5	117.0	157.4	188.7
Other chemicals	271/3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pharmaceutical chemicals	272	86.6	87.5	100.0	110.4	107.7	112.6	111.5	109.6	106.8	106.9	107.4	106.9	106.9	115.4	121.3	126.1	130.8
Pharmaceutical preparations	272	99.7	98.3	100.0	103.6	109.1	112.3	105.3	106.7	108.0	110.3	111.4	111.5	110.6	112.7	114.5	117.1	122.8
Toilet preparations	273	92.3	93.9	100.0	108.3	118.6	124.3	111.5	114.0	117.7	120.0	122.6	123.1	123.4	125.0	125.9	129.0	136.4
Paint	274	93.1	94.0	100.0	112.4	120.6	127.5	113.7	117.0	118.1	122.7	124.4	124.7	125.1	127.0	133.4	141.5	159.5
Soap and synthetic detergents	275	90.6	93.5	100.0	108.0	112.3	123.8	110.4	110.7	111.8	112.5	114.3	115.1	118.1	128.7	133.3	145.3	160.7
Synthetic resins and plastic materials	276/1	96.5	97.1	100.0	102.6	103.8	105.6	103.0	103.8	103.8	103.5	104.2	104.1	103.7	106.0	108.7	133.0	156.7
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	89.2	93.1	100.0	111.6	115.7	122.6	114.3	114.5	115.0	116.0	117.4	117.8	120.9	123.7	125.5	131.4	138.7
Total	Order V*	94.7	95.5	100.0	108.2	113.7	118.9	109.9	111.4	112.7	114.2	116.5	117.0	117.1	119.2	122.5	135.3	150.3
Total all manufacturing industry		89.9	93.4	100.0	109.0	114.8	123.2	110.8	112.1	113.5	115.6	118.0	119.5	120.1	124.2	129.1	138.3	148.9

* This price index refers only to sales outside the chemicals industry, including sectors not shown above.
.. not available.

TABLE 5 Prices of materials and fuel purchased by the chemicals and allied industries (Order V) and by manufacturing industry

1970 = 100

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1971			1972				1973				1974	
							2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.
Order V	91.2	93.5	100.0	108.8	112.2	135.9	108.8	110.4	109.6	109.1	110.5	113.0	116.1	120.5	126.8	141.9	154.5	200.7	214.1
Manufacturing industry	91.5	95.0	100.0	104.6	109.2	144.5	104.9	105.6	104.8	105.6	106.1	109.4	115.6	126.0	133.3	150.9	167.6	214.3	215.8

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TABLE 6 Employment (Great Britain)†

Thousands

		1972		1973			1974	
	MLH	Dec.	Mar.	June	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	June
General chemicals	271	136.8	135.7	134.8	134.8	136.8	135.8	135.8
Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	272	74.7	73.9	74.2	75.4	77.6	78.0	..
Toilet preparations	273	25.4	25.2	26.2	27.4	28.1	27.4	..
Paint	274	26.5	26.3	26.8	27.0	26.8	26.4	..
Soap and detergents	275	14.9	15.0	14.9	15.1	15.2	14.8	..
Synthetic resins and plastics materials and synthetic rubber	276	46.5	46.6	46.6	47.2	48.4	46.9	..
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	19.9	20.9	21.8	22.0	22.3	22.0	..
Fertilisers	278	11.3	11.2	10.7	10.6	10.9	11.0	..
Other chemical industries	279	69.0	69.0	68.6	69.3	69.7	69.0	..
Total		425.0	423.7	424.5	428.9	435.8	431.3	432.6
Total manufacturing		7,676.4	7,656.6	7,664.0	7,700.2	7,751.6	7,614.0	7,609.5

Source: Dept. of Employment. Figures from June 1973 are provisional. New Series introduced in June 1974.

† Employment in the chemicals industry in Northern Ireland is about 2,200 of which 500 is in General Chemicals: 800 in Synthetic Resins and Plastics Materials and 600 in Fertilisers. Estimates from July 2 are subject to revision when the results of the 1973 census of employment are available.

.. Not available.

TABLE 7 Capital expenditure

	Current prices	£ million 1970 prices
1963	128	174
1964	162	216
1965	217	275
1966	254	305
1967	215	256
1968	223	256
1969	268	296
1970	383	383
1971	367	334
1972	308	263
1973	281	216
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1970 1st quarter	82	92
2nd quarter	90	95
3rd quarter	94	96
4th quarter	117	100
1971 1st quarter	89	89
2nd quarter	82	80
3rd quarter	91	84
4th quarter	105	81
1972 1st quarter	84	76
2nd quarter	78	70
3rd quarter	71	62
4th quarter	75	55
1973 1st quarter	68	56
2nd quarter	68	56
3rd quarter	65	52
4th quarter	80	52
1974 1st quarter	81	59
2nd quarter	86	60

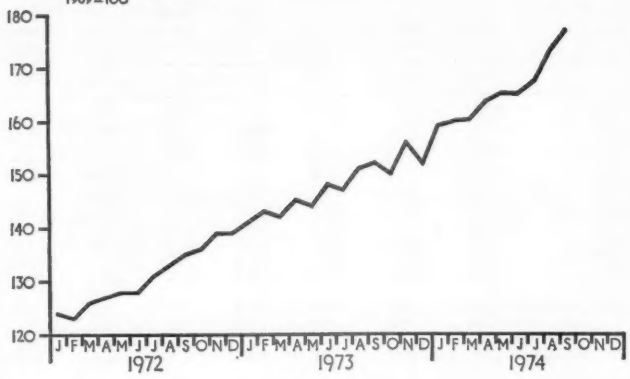
Turnover of the catering trades in September

The total turnover of the catering trades in the third quarter of 1974 was just over 5 per cent more than in the second quarter, at current prices and after allowing for normal seasonal movements. This represents a rather faster rate of growth than has been evident in earlier periods.

Recent percentage increases compared with a year earlier (*not* seasonally adjusted) for the main kinds of business are as follows:

	All caterers	Licensed hotels and holiday camps	Restaurants cafes and fish and chip shops	Public houses	Canteens
1974 2nd quarter	13	14	11 r	13	8 r
3rd quarter	15	16	13	16	18
September	16	18	14	16	19

VALUE OF CATERING TRADE TURNOVER
Seasonally adjusted
1969 = 100



The turnover for all caterers in the third quarter of 1974 was 15 per cent more than in the same quarter of 1973. Over this period, the turnover of public houses (the largest component of the index) increased markedly by 16 per cent, as also did the turnover of licensed hotels and holiday camps, while the turnover of restaurants, cafes, and fish and chip shops increased by 13 per cent, much in line with their experience during the last two years. The turnover of canteens (the smallest component of the index) increased by 18 per cent, almost double their average experience of recent quarters.

NOTE: This series is now being revised on a regular basis taking late returns into account. Revised figures for January to June 1974 inclusive are indicated by the letter r. From now on revised figures will be indicated only in the month of revision.

TABLE 1 Turnover of all caterers seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of turnover per week (†) 1969 = 100

	Value at current prices (Turnover in 1969—£2,533 million)
1969	100
1970	108
1971	118
1972	131
1973	148
1970 1st quarter	105
2nd quarter	108
3rd quarter	109
4th quarter	111
1971 1st quarter	115
2nd quarter	117
3rd quarter	119
4th quarter	122
1972 1st quarter	125
2nd quarter	128
3rd quarter	133
4th quarter	138
1973 1st quarter	142
2nd quarter	146
3rd quarter	150
4th quarter	153
1974 1st quarter	160
2nd quarter	164 r
3rd quarter	173
1974 January	161 r
February	160
March•	160
April	163 r
May	165
June•	164 r
July	167
August	173
September•	177
1974 April-June	164
July-September	173
Percentage increase	*5*

† The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked • which are of five weeks. The September 1974 period was the four weeks from 25 August 1974 to 28 September 1974. The September 1973 period was the four weeks from 26 August 1973 to 29 September 1973.

The series are provisionally rebased using the broad results of the large scale inquiry into the catering trades for 1969. The detailed results of this inquiry will be incorporated in a final rebasing in due course.

A full report on the 1969 inquiry was published in November 1972 under the title 'Catering Trades 1969: Statistical Inquiry' (HMSO, 32p net).

r = Revised figure (see text).

National Food Survey: household food consumption in the second quarter of 1974

The main results of the National Food Survey for the second quarter of 1974 are summarised in the accompanying tables. The estimates are derived from records provided by a sample of 1,870 households throughout Great Britain.

Average expenditure on food bought for consumption in the home (excluding sweets and soft drinks) rose by 16p (5.6 per cent) in the second quarter of 1974 to £3.07 per person per week; spending on seasonal foods and that on convenience foods each rose by 8½p and there was a decrease of 1p in expenditure on all other foods. The general level of food prices actually paid by housewives (after allowing for the food subsidies on milk, cheese, butter and bread during the quarter) was only slightly higher than in the previous quarter. Most of the increase in expenditure thus represents some recovery in the real value of food purchases from the low level to which it had fallen in the exceptional circumstances prevailing in the first few months of the year. Compared with the second quarter of 1973, average expenditure rose by 36p (13.1 per cent) while the general level of food prices paid by housewives participating in the Survey rose by 13.8 per cent; the implied slight fall in the real value of food purchases was due principally to a decrease for canned convenience foods, particularly the more expensive types of canned foods.

The price of liquid milk was reduced by ½p per pint on 21 April 1974, and average consumption rose from 4.63 pints in the previous quarter to 4.75 pints, about the same level as in the second quarter of 1973. Consumption of cheese recovered to 3.85 oz. per person per week and the average price fell slightly in real terms following the introduction of the subsidy.

The average price of butter remained at 21½p per lb. throughout the second quarter of 1974, but that of margarine increased by 2p to 19p per lb. and there was some further displacement of margarine by butter, consumption of margarine falling from 2.81 oz. to 2.59 oz. per person per week and that of butter increasing from 5.37 oz. to 5.59 oz. Purchases of cooking fats were slightly greater than in the corresponding period of the previous year but those of cooking oils were no more than maintained. The average price paid by housewives for eggs fell from 42p a dozen in the first quarter of 1974 to 36p in the second quarter, and although consumption increased from 4.06 to 4.26 eggs per person per week, it was at the same level as in the second quarter of 1973 when the average price was 30p a dozen.

The seasonal decline in purchases of sugar was less pronounced than in most previous years. This appears to be due to larger purchases than usual having been made in June. In that month, 73 per cent of the households in the Survey made a purchase of sugar during their week of recording compared with 67 per cent in June 1973, and the average quantity purchased by those purchasing households was 46 oz. compared with 42 oz.

Currently, about 14 per cent of the households included in the Survey sample own a deep-freezer, and bulk purchasing within this group of households causes the sampling variation in the amount and variety of carcass meat purchased during the Survey week to be so great as to distort the overall averages for all households in the Survey. For example, rather more of the freezer-owning households in the sample than in the previous quarter bought sides of pork (some at concessionary prices), and fewer made purchases of beef. Thus, while the recorded overall average for pork increased from 3.05 oz. per person per week in the first quarter of the year to 3.82 in the second quarter, the exclusion of freezer-owning households from the sample would have given averages showing a decrease from 3.10 oz. to 2.88 oz. The recorded overall decrease in purchases of beef (from 7.24 to 6.74 oz.) would have been only about half as great if the freezer-owning households had been excluded, while the increase in purchases of lamb (from 3.35 oz. to 3.71 oz.) would barely have been affected. Compared with a year previously, average consumption of beef thus probably increased by about 1¼ oz., that of lamb declined by about ½ oz., while that of pork was maintained. Purchases of poultry, uncooked bacon and ham, and canned meat, though greater than in the previous quarter, were slightly less than in the second quarter of 1973, but consumption of cooked ham and of other cooked meat showed some gains. Consumption of fish was at the same level as in the previous quarter and continued to be less than it had been a year earlier.

Consumption of brassicas was rather less, and that of other fresh green vegetables (particularly peas and beans) higher, than in the

TABLE 1 Estimates of average household food consumption

oz per person per week (a)

	Year 1972	Year 1973	2nd quarter 1973	1st quarter 1974	2nd quarter 1974
	£	£	£	£	£
Total household food expenditure	2.41	2.74	2.71	2.91	3.07
Liquid milk (pints)	4.62	4.75	4.72	4.63	4.75
Other milk (eq pints)	0.40	0.38	0.36	0.33	0.35
Cheese	3.53	3.75	3.79	3.54	3.85
Butter	4.79	5.24	5.07	5.37	5.59
Margarine	3.52	3.03	3.12	2.81	2.59
Lard and compound cooking fats	1.89	1.83	1.68	1.91	1.81
Eggs: purchases (number)	4.24	4.11	4.16	4.01	4.06
consumption (number)	4.41	4.23	4.27	4.06	4.26
Preserves	2.56	2.51	2.61	2.33	2.34
Sugar	15.02	13.69	12.50	14.06	13.80
Beef and veal	6.90	6.31	5.71	7.24	6.74
Mutton and lamb	4.96	4.44	4.36	3.35	3.71
Pork	3.10	3.00	2.90	3.05	3.82
Bacon and ham, uncooked	4.68	4.41	4.59	4.07	4.26
Bacon and ham, cooked (including canned)	0.96	0.93	0.94	0.72	1.01
Poultry and cooked chicken	5.69	6.09	6.66	4.69	5.39
Other cooked meat (not canned)	0.63	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.71
Other canned meat	2.40	2.45	2.52	2.15	2.23
Offals	1.24	1.17	1.19	1.12	0.96
Sausages, uncooked	3.55	3.41	3.38	3.55	3.48
Other meat products:					
meat pies and sausage rolls (ready-to-eat)	0.72	0.75	0.73	0.61	0.66
all other (not frozen)	2.28	2.24	2.09	2.33	2.30
Fish, fresh and processed	3.34	2.97	2.98	2.67	2.70
Canned fish	0.67	0.68	0.78	0.50	0.55
Fish and fish products, frozen	1.04	1.06	1.14	1.11	1.01
Fresh green vegetables	13.28	12.48	11.52	9.62	11.12
Tomatoes fresh	3.66	3.82	3.64	1.88	3.84
Other fresh vegetables	9.86	10.11	7.59	10.63	8.00
Frozen vegetables	2.17	2.78	2.86	2.76	2.94
Canned tomatoes	0.98	0.91	0.97	1.02	0.96
Canned peas	2.95	2.76	2.79	2.84	3.28
Canned beans	3.72	3.18	3.68	3.67	3.70
Potatoes (excluding processed) purchases	42.76	43.26	39.46	45.99	41.31
consumption	46.70	45.93	40.38	47.69	42.93
Citrus fruit	4.80	5.24	6.27	6.16	5.27
Bananas	2.88	2.95	3.30	2.37	3.04
Apples	6.57	6.66	5.40	6.74	6.83
All other fresh fruit	3.29	3.05	2.75	1.45	2.73
Canned fruit	4.34	4.49	4.85	3.49	3.99
Dried fruit, nuts and fruit and nut products	1.26	1.19	0.82	1.01	0.67
Flour	5.42	5.25	4.50	4.84	4.46
White bread	28.64	27.58	27.53	27.56	29.92
Brown, wholewheat and wholemeal bread	2.86	2.76	2.66	2.49	2.34
Other bread	2.94	3.08	3.25	2.60	2.69
Buns, scones and teacakes	1.28	1.07	1.11	1.05	0.90
Cakes and pastries	3.83	3.74	3.70	3.18	3.44
Chocolate biscuits	1.03	1.25	1.41	1.20	1.11
Other biscuits	4.59	4.57	4.82	4.06	4.57
Breakfast cereals	2.86	2.95	3.03	2.86	2.86
Oatmeal and oat products	0.58	0.46	0.35	0.62	0.41
Canned milk puddings	1.52	1.72	1.64	1.70	1.80
Tea	2.24	2.16	2.14	2.20	2.15
Instant coffee	0.46	0.47	0.46	0.49	0.46
Canned soups	3.23	3.58	3.14	4.26	3.16
Pickles and sauces	1.57	1.57	1.65	1.51	1.59

(a) Except where otherwise stated.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

second quarter of 1973. Consumption of fresh potatoes, carrots, onions, tomatoes and of canned peas and some potato products also increased, but there was very little change in purchases of other vegetables. Apples were in better supply than a year previously and average prices were 2p per lb. lower, with consumption averaging 6.83 oz. compared with 5.40 oz. This increase was to some extent offset by decreases in purchases of imported citrus fruit, from 6.27 oz. to 5.27 oz., and of bananas from 3.30 oz. to 3.04 oz.

Purchases of bread averaged 34.9 oz. per person per week, their highest level for two years, the increase being entirely in respect of white loaves. Purchases of cakes and biscuits (other than chocolate biscuits) showed some recovery in the second quarter but remained less than they had been a year earlier, while consumption of buns, scones and tea cakes decreased further. Compared with April-June 1973, there were no changes in purchases of tea and instant coffee.

Despite these changes, the intake of every nutrient was almost the same as in the first quarter – except for vitamin C, whose seasonal increase in potatoes more than compensated for the decline in potato consumption. The energy content of the food purchased, after deduction of 10 per cent as an allowance for wastage in the home, and making allowance for meals out, provided 99 per cent of the recommended intake: recorded household food purchases alone would not be expected to provide the recommended energy intake because alcoholic drink, sweets and soft drinks also contribute substantial amounts of energy to the average diet.

Information is also given for households with four or more children. As the number of such households in the quarter is small, the averages for these households are given for the year ending June 1974. The values for the past three April-June quarters showed the seasonal decline usual in all households during this quarter. But there was no seasonal reduction during April/June 1974, in the overall nutrient content of the diet in these households which could be attributed to purchases of the four foods where subsidies were introduced or increased during the quarter.

Notes

The *National Food Survey*, conducted on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, is a continuous sampling inquiry

TABLE 2 Estimates of average household food expenditure

new pence per person per week

	Year 1972	Year 1973	2nd quarter 1973	1st quarter 1974	2nd quarter 1974
	£	£	£	£	£
Total household food expenditure	240.80	274.12	271.13	290.73	306.78
Liquid milk	24.20	25.72	25.54	25.27	22.10
Other milk	2.57	2.73	2.81	2.52	2.94
Cheese	7.16	7.93	7.97	7.91	8.83
Butter	7.65	6.92	6.75	7.23	7.48
Margarine	3.01	2.69	2.65	2.95	3.05
Lard and compound cooking fats	1.14	1.25	1.02	1.78	1.90
Eggs	7.56	11.01	10.50	14.02	12.23
Preserves	1.94	2.13	2.20	2.20	2.32
Sugar	4.44	4.19	3.70	4.60	4.55
Beef and veal	18.46	21.92	19.46	26.63	24.58
Mutton and lamb	9.66	11.15	10.29	9.91	10.64
Pork	6.55	8.06	7.46	9.30	9.20
Bacon and ham, uncooked	9.70	12.35	12.47	13.12	13.10
Bacon and ham, cooked (including canned)	3.32	3.91	3.76	3.58	5.02
Poultry and cooked chicken	6.93	9.47	9.99	8.26	9.47
Other cooked meat (not canned)	1.74	1.89	1.82	2.12	2.62
Other canned meat	4.18	5.19	5.21	5.00	5.71
Offals	2.16	2.59	2.53	2.81	2.55
Sausages, uncooked	4.85	5.63	5.42	6.45	6.49
Other meat products:					
meat pies and sausage rolls (ready-to-eat)	1.06	1.24	1.20	1.16	1.31
all others (not frozen)	3.71	4.57	4.27	5.24	5.54
Fish, fresh and processed	6.48	7.29	7.23	7.85	8.07
Canned fish	1.96	2.01	2.40	1.79	1.99
Fish and fish products, frozen	2.20	2.62	2.66	3.28	3.13
Fresh green vegetables	4.32	4.81	5.18	4.95	6.34
Tomatoes, fresh	3.52	3.94	5.45	2.85	6.14
Other fresh vegetables	3.91	4.89	5.27	5.01	5.47
Frozen vegetables	2.07	2.67	2.84	2.86	3.19
Canned tomatoes	0.46	0.57	0.57	0.86	0.88
Canned peas	1.31	1.26	1.25	1.47	1.80
Canned beans	1.81	1.85	1.80	2.26	2.63
Potatoes (excluding processed)	5.79	6.82	8.86	6.52	9.96
Citrus fruit	2.50	2.90	3.06	3.58	3.18
Bananas	1.62	1.86	2.04	1.70	2.27
Apples	3.44	4.08	4.35	3.80	4.69
All other fresh fruit	1.90	2.08	1.59	1.08	2.05
Canned fruit	2.84	3.37	3.53	2.98	3.71
Dried fruit, nuts and fruit and nut products	1.38	1.74	1.06	1.75	1.20
Flour	1.33	1 42	1.22	1.76	1.85
White bread	11.02	11.32	10.93	14.02	15.63
Brown, wholewheat and wholemeal bread	1.38	1.46	1.38	1.61	1.58
Other bread	2.49	2.83	2.90	2.92	3.17
Buns, scones and teacakes	1.34	1.21	1.35	1.35	1.35
Cakes and pastries	5.54	5.94	5.66	5.74	6.64
Chocolate biscuits	1.96	2.34	2.47	2.53	2.67
Other biscuits	4.44	4.82	4.84	4.62	5.73
Breakfast cereals	2.73	2.94	2.98	3.27	3.53
Oatmeal and oat products	0.34	0.28	0.21	0.48	0.32
Canned milk puddings	0.66	0.78	0.73	0.83	0.95
Tea	4.81	4.79	4.73	4.89	5.17
Instant coffee	2.91	3.24	3.26	3.39	3.32
Canned soups	1.65	1.97	1.73	2.54	1.92
Pickles and sauces	1.42	1.51	1.53	1.59	1.72
Other foods	17.30	19.97	19.05	22.54	22.90

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

TABLE 3 Energy value and nutrient content of the household diet as a percentage of recommended intakes (a) (b)

	National averages					Households with four or more children			
	Year 1972	Year 1973	2nd quarter 1973	1st quarter 1974	2nd quarter 1974	Year 1972	Year 1973	Averages of the April-June quarters in the three most recent years	Averages for the year ended April-June 1974
Energy	105	104	102	100	99	99	94	91	94
Protein	125	124	123	121	121	114	109	107	108
Calcium	189	193	193	187	190	157	158	155	156
Iron	123	118	116	106	105	111	100	97	98
Thiamin	137	134	131	124	124	138	130	128	128
Riboflavin	131	132	131	127	127	131	127	126	124
Nicotinic acid equivalent	194	193	190	186	185	190	180	177	179
Vitamin C	184	189	179	151	171	155	158	138	152
Vitamin A (retinol equivalent)	198	190	191	184	180	182	172	168	164
Vitamin C (c)	88	89	93	80	81	68	79	71	70

(a) Department of Health and Social Security. *Recommended Intakes of Nutrients for the United Kingdom* Reports on Public Health and Medical Subjects, No. 120, HMSO, 1969.
(b) All values make allowance for wastage in the home of 10 per cent of the edible portion of food bought, and for expected losses of nutrients during cooking.
(c) The Survey does not evaluate welfare and pharmaceutical sources of this (or any other) vitamin. Furthermore, most adults need no dietry Vitamin D, since they obtain all they need from the action of sunlight on the skin.

into the domestic food consumption, expenditure and nutrition of private households in Great Britain. It is the only official inquiry which obtains direct measurement of the quantities and varieties of food purchased by housewives, together with the average prices actually paid for food both in Great Britain as a whole and by different sectors of the population. Detailed reports are published annually. The latest volume, published on June 17 1974, gave information on household food consumption and expenditure in 1972.

How households spent their money in 1973

Average household expenditure in 1973 was £39.43 a week, with an average net income of £41.56. This was an increase in expenditure over the previous year of 12.5 per cent, and an increase in net income of 14.6 per cent.

These are the main conclusions of the Family Expenditure Survey, (HMSO, price £2.60) published by the Department of Employment, and featured in the Department's October *Gazette**. The Survey is the latest in the annual series from 1957 onwards, and it shows that the pattern of household expenditure has changed little over the years.

Food expenditure increased from £8,72 in 1972 to £9.63 in 1973, but as a proportion of total household expenditure it fell slightly from 24.9 per cent to 24.4 per cent. Proportionately more was spent on housing, 13.5 per cent against 12.6 per cent in 1972, and expenditure on durable household goods went up by 0.5 per cent. However, expenditure on transport and vehicles, which had increased by 0.5 per cent between 1971 and 1972 fell by 0.6 per cent in 1973.

The main tables of the Survey analyse expenditure by ranges of household income within a specified household type. The report also analyses the expenditure of various groups of households by composition, by the age of the head of the household, by the type of work he does and by the region in which the household is located. The 1973 Survey is based on a representative sample of 7,126 households. It was spread over the year and provided comprehensive information about incomes and regularly recurring expenditure, including details and records of the households' day-by-day expenditure for 14 consecutive days.

Among the wealth of detailed information in the report, it shows that 21 per cent of all households owned their own homes outright and 28 per cent were buying them through mortages or loans; 54 per cent had the use of a car and 38.5 per cent had central heating; 78 per cent of households now own a refrigerator, and 67 per cent a washing machine. Only 43 per cent had a telephone but television was available to 93 per cent.

The regional breakdown of household expenditure shows that Northern Ireland spent the highest proportion on food and fuel and the lowest on housing, and joined Scotland in spending the highest proportion on clothes and footwear. The north of England had about the lowest average expenditure and the highest proportion spent on drink. East Anglia and the south west of England, being largely rural areas, spent a fairly high proportion on transport and vehicles; Yorkshire and Humberside and the north west spent more on clothing, transport and services than the north; the Scots appear to be the heaviest smokers and are second only to the south east in the proportion spent on services.

Preliminary results of the Family Expenditure Survey were given in the June issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette.*

* Department of Employment Gazette, HMSO, price 70p, Annual subscription including postage, £9.48.

Retail sales: provisional estimates for October

Volume

The *provisional* estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in October is 111½ (1971 = 100), much the same as in August or September.

It appears that, following the recovery in the volume of trade in the middle of the year, the underlying movement in recent months has been broadly flat.

With the recovery in trade the average volume of retail sales in the four months July-October was 2-2½ per cent above the average level in the first half of the year, when trade was relatively depressed, and at about the same level as in the second half of last year.

Taking the first ten months of the year together, the average volume of sales was ½ per cent below the average level in the corresponding period of 1973.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the *provisional* estimate of the value of retail sales in October shows a rise of 18 per cent compared with October last year. On the longer term comparison, the cumulative value of sales in the first ten months of this year was 15 per cent above the corresponding period last year.

Retail sales: Volume Seasonally adjusted index (1971 = 100)		Retail sales: Value Not seasonally adjusted – percentage change compared with a year earlier	
1973 1st quarter	111.8	1973 1st quarter	+16
2nd quarter	108.3	2nd quarter	+12
3rd quarter	110.6	3rd quarter	+12
4th quarter	112.0	4th quarter	+13
1974 1st quarter	109.9	1974 1st quarter	+11
2nd quarter	107.5	2nd quarter	+15
3rd quarter	111.1	3rd quarter	+18
1973 July	110.4	1973 July	+12
August	110.7	August	+12
September	110.6	September	+13
October	111.2	October	+14
1974 July	109.3	1974 July	+16
August	111.5	August	+18
September	112.1	September	+19
October	111½ (prov.)	October	+18 (prov.)

Notes: provisional figures

The volume index is given to the nearest ½ per cent. The percentage increase in value compared with a year earlier is given to the nearest whole number.

A detailed note on the method of computation of the provisional estimates was published in *Trade and Industry* on 21 September 1974.

The provisional figures are made available by press notice in advance of this article. The final figures for October will be published in a press notice on Monday, 2 December.

Bankruptcy records for England and Wales

Details of bankruptcies in England and Wales are maintained in a public search room at Room 901, Thomas More Building, Royal Court of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY.

Searches can be made personally or by an agent and a fee of 25p in respect of each bankruptcy inquiry is payable at the time.

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Output in the wool textile industry

The volume of production in the industry (as measured by the seasonally adjusted index of production) in August 1974 was 2 per cent lower than in August 1973. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January-August 1974 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 7 per cent less than in the corresponding period of 1973; deliveries of worsted yarn (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 14 per cent lower. Production of wool and hair tops was 30 per cent less but that of man-made fibre tops 9 per cent more.

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn (†)	Worsted yarn (§)	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets) (‡)		Blankets (†)
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kilos					million sq. metres		
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136 6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1972 1st quarter	37.2	18.7	11.0	32.3	24.2	22.6	20.7	7.3
2nd quarter	39.3	19.5	11.8	33.8	26.6	25.7	20.7	5.7
3rd quarter	36.0	18.1	10.8	29.8	23.5	25.0	19.6	7.1
4th quarter	39.8	19.0	12.4	35.2	27.2	26.7	22.8	8.8
1973 1st quarter	40.7	19.9	13.3	36.8	27.8	25.8	24.5	8.6
2nd quarter	34.9	16.6	13.9	33.4	24.6	27.2	21.7	7.3
3rd quarter	29.2	13.0	13.0	29.8	21.8	24.1	19.9	6.7
4th quarter	31.8	12.9	15.6	35.2	25.7	27.2	22.2	8.1
1974 1st quarter	28.4	11.9	13.3	29.5	21.5	22.7	20.9	7.8
2nd quarter		12.8	15.5	36.7	23.5	25.8	21.2	7.2
1973 January	14.3	6.8	4.2	12.9	9.5	8.7	8.2	3.3
February	12.3	6.1	4.0	11.3	8.6	7.9	7.7	2.5
March	14.1	7.0	5.1	12.6	9.7	9.3	8.6	2.8
April	11.4	5.6	4.6	10.3	7.8	7.5	7.1	2.5
May	11.5	5.5	4.9	11.1	8.5	9.7	7.4	2.5
June	12.0	5.5	4.4	12.1	8.3	9.9	7.2	2.3
July	9.9	5.1	5.0	9.0	7.3	7.5	7.0	1.6
August	9.0	3.5	3.3	10.0	7.3	7.4	5.8	2.5
September	1.03	4.4	4.7	10.8	7.2	9.1	7.2	2.6
October	11.8	4.7	5.5	13.2	9.5	9.7	7.9	2.8
November	11.3	4.8	5.7	12.5	9.1	9.8	8.1	2.9
December	8.7	3.4	4.5	9.6	7.0	7.8	6.2	2.4
1974 January	8.7	3.6	3.8	9.2	6.8	7.4	6.7	2.3
February	8.6	3.6	4.0	8.8	6.9	7.0	6.6	2.9
March	11.1	4.7	5.5	11.5	7.8	8.3	7.6	2.6
April	11.0	4.4	5.9	12.0	8.1	8.3	7.0	2.4
May	10.9	4.2	4.8	12.1	7.6	9.0	7.1	2.5
June	11.7	4.2	4.8	12.6	7.8	8.5	7.1	2.3
July		4.0	6.1	9.3	7.4	7.6	7.0	1.6
August		2.5	3.7	9.0	6.4	7.5	5.7	2.3

(†) Estimated. (‡) Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components. (§) From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the woollen and worsted yarn headings. In August deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.8 million kilos.

Monthly Digest of Statistics

Prepared by the Central Statistical Office in collaboration with the Statistics Division of Government Departments, this digest is designed to provide industrialists and business executives with invaluable statistics relating to the economic situation in the United Kingdom. It contains a regular series of detailed statistics on a wide range of subjects which include the following: *Labour, Fuel and Power, External Trade, Wages and Prices, Industrial Production, Industrial Materials, Finance.*

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Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH). Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers.

HMSO BOOKS

Production in the cotton industry

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in the period January-August 1974 the amount of cloth woven was 8 per cent lower than in the corresponding period of 1973. Production of single yarn decreased by 9 per cent and doubled yarn by 11 per cent.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn (†)		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg.				million metres	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1973 January*	2.5	1.7	1.6		9.3	9.7
February	2.6	1.9	1.7		10.0	10.2
March	2.5	2.0	1.8		10.0	10.4
April	2.2	1.7	1.6		8.8	9.4
May*	2.5	2.0	1.8		9.5	10.1
June	2.0	1.8	1.5		9.5	10.1
July	1.8	1.3	1.3		5.8	7.1
August*	2.2	1.8	1.6		8.5	9.1
September	1.8	1.5	1.4		7.4	9.3
October*	2.3	2.0	1.7		9.2	10.9
November	2.3	2.0	1.6		9.3	11.0
December	1.7	1.5	1.2		7.0	8.2
1974 January*	1.6	1.4	1.1		6.6	6.8
February	1.7	1.5	1.2		7.1	7.9
March	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.6
April	2.0	1.9	1.6		8.0	10.5
May*	2.3	2.1	1.7		8.6	10.7
June	2.0	1.9	1.5		9.0	11.2
July*	1.7	1.4	1.3		5.4	7.8
August	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.8

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

Index of retail sales in Northern Ireland

The seasonally adjusted index of retail sales in Northern Ireland for August was 196 (1965 = 100), 19 per cent more than in August 1973.

After allowing for price changes, the total volume of sales in August showed an increase of 1 per cent on a year earlier.

The seasonally adjusted index numbers of the value of sales in August and percentage increases on a year earlier for the main groups of traders are shown below. More detailed information can be obtained from the Department of Commerce, Index of Retail Sales, 21 Linenhall Street, Belfast BT2 8BZ (tel. Belfast (0232) 28081, ext. 140).

Sales by:	Sales in 1965 – £m	August 1974 Seasonally adjusted value index numbers 1965 = 100	August 1974 Percentage increases
All kinds of business	219	196	19
Food shops	97	212	22
Non-food shops	122	180	16
Of which:			
Clothing and footwear shops	36	179	23
Durable goods shops	21	205	2
Miscellaneous non-food shops	43	187	21
Department and general stores	22	141	17

Domestic furniture deliveries for September

Monthly figures of domestic furniture deliveries for the period August 1973 to September 1974 are given below. Inquiries into the orders-on-hand data are still taking place and this series will not be resumed until the position has been resolved.

	Deliveries £m current values	Index of deliveries unadjusted	Index of deliveries seasonally adjusted
1973 August	32.5	138	166
September	38.8	188	164
October	42.1	175	152
November	41.7	178	153
December	28.8	128	136
1974 January	31.8	124	130
February	30.5	134	129
March	35.3	146	142
April	32.9 p	128	135
May	33.4 p	124	129
June	32.3 p	136	135
July	29.7 p	107	133
August	29.2 p	109	131
September	39.0 p	149	130

p = provisional.

Provisional estimates of vehicle production and new car registrations in October

Tables 1 and 2 show United Kingdom vehicle production as estimated from provisional returns supplied by the major manufacturers.

No provisional estimate of new car registrations is provided in Table 3 for the month of October. The basis of these statistics has been modified from the beginning of October 1974 with the transfer of the recording of all new vehicle registrations from the Local Vehicle Licensing Offices to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Directorate, of the DOE, at Swansea. From 1 October, new vehicle registrations are being compiled on the basis of the month in which the road licences become effective rather than the period in which the applications were lodged.

TABLE 1 Estimated UK vehicle production in October 1974

Thousands

	Cars		Commercial vehicles	
	Month	Weekly average	Month	Weekly average
Estimated output:				
1974 (4 weeks ended 26 Oct.)	124,000	31,000	35,000	8,750
1973 (4 weeks ended 27 Oct.)	156,718	39,180	39,521	9,880
Percentage change		−21		−11

TABLE 2 UK vehicle production: Monthly averages seasonally adjusted

Thousands

	1973	1974						Average of		
	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr	3rd qtr.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct. p	May/ July 1974	Aug./ Oct. 1974 p	% change
Cars	149	118	138	133	150	94	126	150	124	−17
Commercial vehicles	33.6	28.9	33.9	38.0	38.3	34.9	34.9	36.1	36.1	N/C

TABLE 3 New car registrations

Thousands

	1974							Per cent change latest 3 months on previous 3 months
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	
Recorded	327.3	330.2	330.8	90.5	134.1	106.2	..	
Seasonally adjusted	308	312	325	105	102	118	..	+4

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PQ 474 Shop and office fittings for second quarter 1974
PQ 499.2 Miscellaneous manufacturing industries for second quarter 1974

Business Monitors in the Production, Service and Distributive and Miscellaneous series are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. The Census of Production reports are available on standing order from the same address or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Exceptionally copies can be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or at the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Department's Central Library, which will supply prices on request (tel: 01-215 3038) or the Department's Library at the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent, NPT 1XG (tel: 0633-56111 ext 2973 Telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport), from which a complete list of titles of Business Monitors is available on application.

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Cinema admissions and takings in August

During August, counted as a four week period, the weekly average of admissions to cinemas in Great Britain was 3.21 million and the weekly average of gross box office takings, including VAT was £1.53 million. The comparable figures for August 1973 were 3.47 million and £1.45 million respectively.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 8 November 1974.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Madhouse	BR/E 37766/10/11/79	87	4 November	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	American International Productions (England) Ltd., London
What Next	BR/E 37767/10/11/79	56	4 November	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Kingsgate Films (London) Ltd.
Review No. 3 (28th year)	BR/E 37776/10/11/79	10	6 November	Data Film Distributors Ltd.	National Coal Board
Movietone News 2370	BR/E 37586/10/11/79	9	8 November	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
Movietone News 2370A	BR/E 37587/10/11/79	7	8 November	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
The Night Porter	EC 37769/10/11/79	117	5 November	AVCO Embassy Pictures (UK) Ltd.	Lotar Films, Rome
Verdict	EC 37772/10/11/79	97	6 November	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Les Films Concordia, Paris. Compagnia Cinematografica Champion, Rome
Sixteen	EC 37777/10/11/79	93	6 November	Gemini Films	Lucio Giuliani per la Cineproduzioni Peg, Rome
Take This My Body	EC 37778/10/11/79	93	6 November	Gemini Films	P.A.C. Atlas Consorziate-Filmarpa, Italy
My Body Burns	EC 37779/10/11/79	73	7 November	Cinecenta Film Distributors Ltd.	Les Films JMP, L'ile Bouchard (37), France
Otello	EC 37781/10/11/79	148	7 November	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	Unitel Film-und Fernseh-Produktionsgesellschaft mbH, Munich
			FOREIGN		
Sabah Timber	F 37762	31	4 November	Cathay Films Ltd.	Cathay Film Services Ltd., Singapore
Youth Festival Singapore 1973	F 37763	15	4 November	Cathay Films Ltd.	Cathay Film Services Ltd., Singapore
9th World Bowling Cup 1973	F 37764	14	4 November	Cathay Films Ltd.	Cathay Film Services Ltd., Singapore
Where Courage Lives	F 37765	26	4 November	Cathay Films Ltd.	Cathay Film Services Ltd., Singapore
Confessions Of A Bigamist	F 37768	84	5 November	Border Film Productions (London) Ltd.	Grun Films, Italy
Tango Of Perversion	F 37770	90	5 November	Focus Film Distributors Ltd.	Carar Film Productions, Athens
Call Detroit 9000	F 37771	99	6 November	New Realm Distributors Ltd.	General Film Corporation, California
Uncle Vanya	F 37773	102	6 November	Contemporary Films Ltd.	Sovexportfilm, Moscow
Chess Fever	F 37774	20	6 November	Contemporary Films Ltd.	Sovexportfilm, Moscow
The Greek Connection	F 37775	77	6 November	Focus Film Distributors Ltd.	Carar Film Productions, Athens
Six Women	F 37780	64	7 November	Cinecenta Film Distributors Ltd.	Edward de Priest Productions, USA

Correction to the Register:
The name of the maker of the film 'In Great Waters', registered on 16 September 1974, has been corrected to read International Film Associates (Scotland) Ltd.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	30 May 1974
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	17 Oct. 1974
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	31 Oct. 1974
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	7 Mar. 1974
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	3 Oct. 1974
Catering trades turnover (M)	10 Oct. 1974
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	This week
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	12 Sept. 1974
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	24 Oct. 1974
N. Ireland (M)	24 Oct. 1974
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
Energy trends (M)	7 Nov. 1974
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	7 Nov. 1974
Film industry:	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	24 Oct. 1974
cinema admissions and takings (M)	This week
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registration of films (A)	31 Jan. 1974
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	5 Sept. 1974
household consumption (Q)	This week
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	5 Sept. 1974
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	10 Oct. 1974
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	This week
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Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	24 Oct. 1974
N. Ireland index (M)	31 Oct. 1974
Wales index (Q)	11 Apr. 1974
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Investment:	
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industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	10 Oct. 1974
investment and earnings overseas (A)	13 June 1974
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	7 Nov. 1974
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production: quarterly analysis (Q)	5 Sept. 1974
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	31 Oct. 1974
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direct exporters and credit terms (A)	27 June 1974
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Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
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cotton industry production (M)	This week
hosiery production (M)	19 Sept. 1974
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	31 Oct. 1974
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	24 Oct. 1974
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Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	17 Oct. 1974

Departmental organisation etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representation overseas	3 Oct. 1974
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	7 Nov. 1974
ECGD local offices	7 Nov. 1974
Guide to Departments	5 Sept. 1974
Official Receivers' offices	24 Oct. 1974
Programme of trade promotions	17 Oct. 1974
Release dates of economic statistics	24 Oct. 1974

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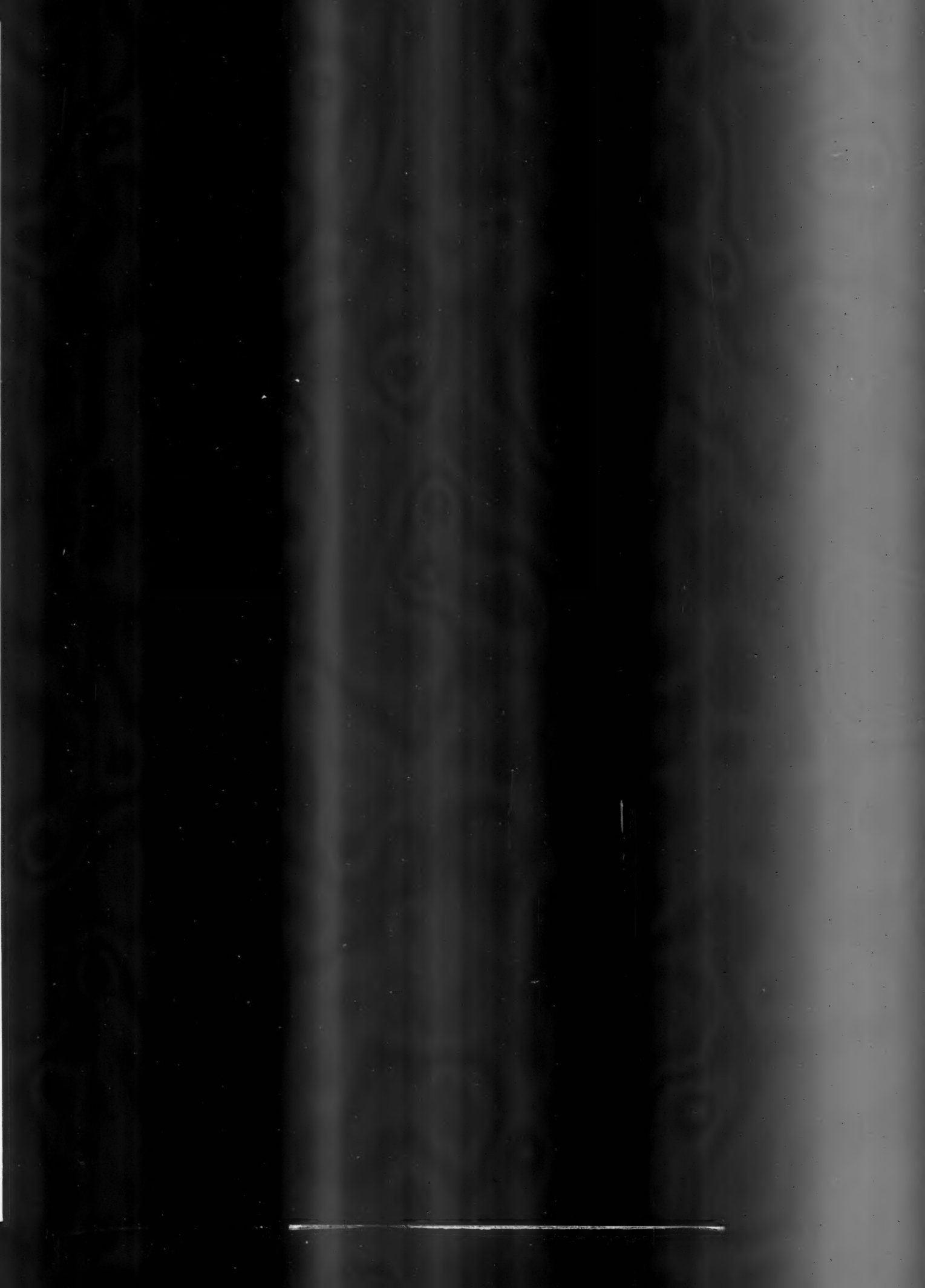
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